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Aug. 5, at Dunrobin Castle, N.B., the Marchioness of Stafford, of a daughter.

Aug. 5, at Sparham, the wife of the Rev. G. Yonge, of a son.

Aug. 6, at Endon, Catford-bridge, S.E., the wife of the Rev. E. C. Robinson, of twin sons.

Aug. 6, at the Parsonage, Dumfries, the wife of the Rev. J. R. Denham, of a daughter.

Aug. 6, at Moy Hall, Inverness, Mrs. Mackintosh of Mackintosh, of a son.

Aug. 6, the wife of the Rev. J. Collin, Whaplode Vicarage, of a daughter.

Aug. 5, at Dunkirk, France, the wife of Edward Taylor, British Vice-Consul, of a son.

Aug. 7, at Church House, Chalvey, Lewes, the wife of the Rev. H. M. Milton, prematurely of a son, stillborn.

Aug. 7, at Kirby Fleetham Vicarage, Yorkshire, the wife of the Rev. J. S. E. Cockburn Hood, of a daughter.

Aug. 8, at 8, The Cedars, Sunderland, Mrs. R. Milbanke Hudson, Jun., of a son.

Aug. 8, at 3, Marlborough-buildings, Bath, the wife of Major Hunter, of Aushterarder, Perthshire, N.B., of a daughter.

Aug. 8, at 23a, Bruton-street, Mrs. Manners, of a son.

Aug. 8, at Hitchin, Herts, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur H. Davis, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 18, in the Chapel of the Holy Child Jesus, Burlington, N.J., U.S.A., Adelaide, third daughter of the late Rev. R. T. Blake, of Sea View, Ryde, I.W., to the Rev. William Maxwell Reily, B.D., Rector of St. John's Military Academy, Haddonfield, New Jersey.

Aug. 4, at Stockton Parish Church, the Rev. George Jepson, M.A., Rector of Elton, Stockton-on-Tees, to Margaret Richardson, youngest daughter of Jos. Dodds, Esq., M.P., of Ragworth, Stockton

Aug. 4, at St. Matthew's, Denmark-hill, Camberwell Amos Kemp, of the Royal Courts of Justice, to Emily Rachel (Minnie), youngest daughter of the late Rev. Charles Curtis Brake, of Islington.

Aug. 4, at the Church of St. John, Bromley, Kent, John Yarrow, of Trigou-terrace, Clapham-road, to Eleanor, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Isaac Dixon, Vicar of Garton, Holderness, and granddaughter of the late Sir William Chambers Bagshawe, of The Oaks, Derbyshire.

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MARRIAGES.

Aug. 4, at All Saints' Church, Cheltenham, Rev. Thomas Digby Raikes, son of the late Major General Thomas Raikes, C.B., to Elizabeth, elder daughter of the late Rev. Samuel Meyrick Higgins, Rector of Icomb.

Aug. 5, at Street Church, county Westmeath, H. E. W. Fetherstonhaugh-Witney (late 60th Rifles), and of Newpass, county Westmeath, youngest son of the late Sir Thomas Fetherston, Bart., to Alice Marion Caroline (May), eldest daughter of Colonel Robert Caulfield, Colamber Manor Edgeworthstown, retired list, Madras Cavalry.

Aug 6, at Sleights Church, Yorkshire, Charles, second son of Henry H. Allan, Esq., of Hempsyke, Yorkshire, and Croydon, Surrey, to Mary, second daughter of the Rev. Thomas Walker, Vicar of Sleights and Ugglebarnby.

Aug. 6, at Minchin Hampton, Gloucestershire, Thomas Henry Butterworth, of H.M. Indian Marine, second son of the Rev. George Butterworth, Vicar of Deerhurst, Gloucestershire, to Caroline Chater, eldest daughter of William Chater, Esq., of Minchin Hampton.

Aug. 11, at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, Frederic Henry Anson, eldest son of the Rev. F. Anson, Canon of Windsor, to Agnes Henrietta, youngest daughter of the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., M.P.

Aug. 11, at Symondsbury, Edward Schroder Prior, of Roxeth Mead, Harrow-on-the-Hill, son of the late John Venn Prior, of Lincoln's-inn, Barrister-at-law, to Lou sa Isabella, second daughter of the Rev. Frederick Webster Maunsell, Rector of Symondsbury, Dorset.

Aug. 11, at Jesmond Church, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the Rev. Herbert William Farrar, B.A., Chaplain Missions to Seamen, South Shields, to Florence Margaret, second daughter of the late Annandale Town, Esq., J.P., Allansford, Durham.

Aug. 11, at Holme, Pierrepont, Notts, Francis Abel, son of Henry Abel Smith, Esq., of Wilford House, Notts, to Madeline St. Maur, daughter of the Rev. Henry Seymour, Rector of Holme Pierrepont.

Aug. 11, at the parish church of Knighton, Leicestershire, the Rev. Edward G. C. Parr, M.A., Chaplain to H.M. Prison, Northampton, to Anna Maria, eldest daughter of the late Francis R. S. Upjohn, Esq., M.R.C.S. England, of East Rudham, Norfolk, and Westbourne-terrace, London.

DEATHS.

July 20, at Acton, Middlesex, Arthur, son of the late General Sir Samuel Ellis.

Aug. 6, at Dewhurst Lodge, Sussex, Mary Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. Francis Kewley, Rector of Remenham, and daughter of the late W. H. Webley-Parry, Esq., of Noyadd-Trefawr, Cardiganshire.

Aug. 7, at Rackheath Park, Sir Henry Josias Stracey, Bart., aged 83.

Aug. 7, at Falconberg Lodge, Greenhill-park, Edinburgh, Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late Sir Alexander Charles Maitland Gibson, Bart., of Clifton Hall and Kersie.

Aug. 8, at Packham, Fordingbridge, Elizabeth Helen, widow of the Rev. Richard Fortescue Purvis, late Rector of Whitsbury, aged 89.

Aug. 8, at 25, Cleveland-square, Hyde-park, Henrietta, widow of the late Major-General Guy Carlton Coffin, R.A., in her 88th year.

Aug. 8, at Lymington, Hampshire, Isabel Frances Amy, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Stirke, 69th (2nd Welsh) Regiment, aged 26.

Aug. 8, at Clarebank, Claremont-park, Leith, N.B., Hilda Marguerite, youngest daughter of Hon. William Wilson, of Melbourne, aged 10 months.

Aug. 10, at the Cothouse, St. Just, Penzance, Maria, widow of the Rev. John Muhleisen Arnold.

Aug. 11, at Forest Lodge, Keston, Kent, the Lady Georgiana Caroline Legge, aged 99.

Aug. 11, at New Milverton, Leamington, Louisa, youngest surviving daughter of the late Rev. Carew P. Elers, Vicar of Bickenhill, Warwickshire.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Council of Ministers was occupied for a long time on Wednesday morning with the discussion of plans connected with the organisation of a settled government in Annam and Tonquin. The result of the Ministerial deliberations is kept profoundly secret.

The Minister of War has received a telegram from General de Courcy, in which the General announces that he has transferred his head-quarters to Haiphong during the prevalence of the cholera epidemic. General de Courcy adds that an excellent feeling prevails among the troops.

On Saturday night M. Ferry, who, like M. Clémenceau, is making an electoral tour, arrived in Lyons. His reception was of a mixed character, cries of "A bas le Tonkinois!" being mingled with those of "Vive Ferry!" The majority, however, appears to have been in his favour. On Sunday evening, in speaking at a banquet of the Radical Democratic Association attended by more than 600 persons, he said there was a danger that from the coming elections there might not come a compact, resolute, homogeneous majority, capable of giving the country the great benefit of a stable government:—

"What he asked them to do was not to return Moderates or Opportunists. He asked them to return Radicals, but not to return Intransigeants. . . . He agreed with them, and he believed with the great majority of Republicans, when he said the next Legislature should confine itself to organising, assimilating, and, if he might use the expression, digesting the colonies they had acquired. M. Ferry afterwards referred to the social question and to the separation of Church and State, which he thought would be dangerous at present, as the Church still exercised great influence in France."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* states that:—"Father Delpech, Superior of the Missions Etrangères, who is unable any longer to doubt that five missionaries whom that house sent within twelve years to Tonquin have been massacred along with 10,000 native Christians, asks religious Catholics to pray for the surviving brethren in Eastern Cochin China. There were 41,000 in that region before the massacres, which still go on. Eight thousand have fled to the mountains. Hué was the most largely Christianised province, and was under the moral direction of twenty-eight missionaries. The latter were nearly all sent by the Missions Etrangères, and were imprudent enough to head a French party. Non-Christianised natives regard the converts as traitors. M. Blancsubé, the Deputy for Cochin China, thinks it a blunder to have sent General de Courcy with a threatening military force to Hué. His arrival there called out a patriotic spirit which he is not strong enough to put down. He does not see the possibility of subjugating the Annamite capital unless at far greater expense than the Tonquin campaign has cost. General de Courcy has been driven to Haiphong by cholera. In that relatively healthy place he has, out of his small force, between sixty and seventy men daily in the cholera hospital. Seventeen died yesterday there. The *Gironde* is under orders to go rapidly from Hanoi to Haiphong to serve as a hospital ship. The mortality among the hospital attendants is great."

During the twenty-four hours of Wednesday 77 deaths occurred in Marseilles, of which 35 were stated to be from cholera. Five deaths are said to have occurred at the Pharo Hospital, and 13 more cases have been admitted, making a total of 47 patients now under treatment.

ITALY.—The *Times* correspondent writes from Naples, August 8:—"The great disaster of Spain had filled Neapolitans with apprehension, but the news from Marseilles has added immensely to it. It was about this time last year that the arrival of cholera in Naples was officially announced, and it had come *vid* Marseilles, as nearly as it was possible to ascertain; nothing less surprising than that it should come again. The Syndic, in a telegram to the Ministry of the Interior, well interprets the public feeling:—'We are assured by commercial authorities that the cholera is in Marseilles. The alarm of this population, not yet recovered from recent suffering, can be readily imagined. I am entreated to beg you to put all vessels arriving from that city in quarantine at Asinara.' Their request was immediately complied with. Vessels arriving from Marseilles, Corsica, or Algiers with clean bills of health will be subjected to seven days of quarantine, but when suspected they are to undergo a quarantine of twenty-one days. Happily Nisida is closed, and Asinara will be the receiving place for all suspicious vessels. That cholera has been in Marseilles for some time there can be no doubt, though doctors have denied it and the Press has been silent. People have, as usual, been blinded by reports of the malady being only cholerine, the common summer malady; and in the interval cholera has been seeking out all the snug corners, and there are many of them, in which to nestle. The same thing happened in Naples last year; cholera had slain many before its presence was officially announced, and then came the terrible panic and the awful destruction of human lives. In truth alone there can be safety. Both in Marseilles and Naples it was well known that the plague was there, but black was called white and white black, and people were put off their guard by official concealment. What the state of Marseilles is I cannot say, but what that of Naples is the public Press informs us. The *Pungolo* says that 'our grandsons will have to *sviscerare* (gut) the city,' and the *Roma* and some other journals are never weary of speaking of the filth and pestilential smells. And all this after the hopes that were raised by the magniloquent declarations of the Government and our local rulers. A vast deal of time was lost in sending up plans, and a great deal of time was lost before they were returned under sentence of condemnation. They were too grandiose, as is everything Italian—the practical and the useful are overlooked—and it was pointed out that while the plans were calculated to make half Naples a paradise, that part which had been most afflicted with cholera, and which was inhabited by artisans and the poorer classes, was comparatively neglected. One positive good has been done in the introduction of a supply of excellent water, but little else. The cholera is at our doors—and it knows where it will be well housed—and we have the hottest summer that has been known for several years. There have been several arrivals of vessels of the Royal Navy and of torpedo boats from the Red Sea. The *Ancona*, ironclad, the *Messaggiero*, a despatch boat, and three of the *squadriglia* of torpedo boats came in on Wednesday; while three *torpedinieri* went off to Venice. It will be remembered that on going out they encountered stormy weather and were in considerable danger. A Royal Commission has been appointed to seek for some places of safe anchorage for topedo boats in Southern Italy or Sicily. The Commission will visit the ports of Gaeta, Reggio, Taranta, and Sicily. The Southern Press is much exercised about its relations with England, and desires to have some positive information. It does not relish marching side by side with Abyssinians to the relief of Kassala, supposing that to have been suggested. Kassala and Massowah, too, are among the aspirations of the Abyssinians. The great object of Italy, says the *Pungolo*, is in the Mediterranean, and, as is well known, it is Tunis which it thinks could be gained with the moral support of England. I report with regret the death of Luigi Catalano Gonzagal, Duke of Cirella. He was one of the few Neapolitan aristocracy who held Liberal opinions through evil and good report. His palace in the Toledo was the mark of Royal fury on the 15th of May, 1841, and I shall ever remember the mode in which the façade was defended by bedding and other things against the shots of soldiery. He was included in the celebrated process of that date, and was sentenced to 27 years of hard labour; but, escaping in time, he lived many years in exile."

Another Naples correspondent writes:—"Prince Michel Alexander Gagarine, a man of 67 years of age, who lately attempted to commit suicide at a small inn at Nice, belongs to one of the most distinguished families in Russia. He possessed a fortune of three million francs, but lost it all in gambling. Lately he asked the managers of the gambling tables at Monaco to grant him his travelling expenses to St. Petersburg, but his request not being complied with he determined to take his life. He aimed a revolver at his left temple, but the bullet ran round the skull and entered the neck, causing a dangerous but not mortal wound. The Prince then tried to throw himself out of the window, but strength failing him he was found weltering in his blood on the floor, and was carried to the hospital. He is a descendant of the famous Matthew Gagarine, once Governor of Siberia, who, in consequence of a conspiracy, was executed in the presence of his whole family. The brother of Prince Michel was a Minister and President of the Privy Council, and enjoys great influence in the Court of Alexander III."

SPAIN.—The cholera continues its ravages in Spain without any sign of abatement. In some of the districts there have been terrible scenes, especially in Granada, where the Archbishop of Seville has fallen a victim to the epidemic. In parts of the provinces the ignorant classes believe that the doctors poison the cholera patients. In some instances the latter have refused medical attendance, and their relatives have assulted the doctors. The return on Friday gave 1,662 deaths; on Saturday 1,595 deaths, on Sunday 1,480 deaths; on Monday, an incomplete return reported 3,510 cases and 1,343 deaths; on Tuesday there were 4,460 cases and 1,561 deaths. On Wednesday the bulletin reported 4,433 cases and 1,648 deaths.

A correspondent, writing to a contemporary from Madrid, says:—"It is as well perhaps that people in England should have an idea of the sufferings which some towns of Spain are enduring just now. A short time ago I described the frightful condition of the town of Monteagudo, in the province of Soria, but other towns are even in a worse plight. In the town of Erla (province of Saragossa) there is no municipality, mayor, or any authority left—they have all died. The doctor (the only one there was) and the only chemist are also dead. All the shops, including those where eatables were sold, are closed; the proprietors having run away or died. You cannot even buy a postage-stamp; the man who sold stamps having also died. The dead cannot be buried fast enough, and people are dying of sheer starvation. The mayor of the neighbouring town of Egea, in direct defiance of Government orders, does not allow any one to enter or leave the town, so that no succour is sent to Erla. The people of Erla wander about the streets in the greatest misery, and many are even afraid to return to their houses. In fact the misery and desolation have reached such a point that the advisableness of camping the population and setting fire to the town is seriously entertained. "If we do not do this," says a correspondent writing from there, "not a soul will be alive here in a week's time." In the town (a small one) of Utel, province of Valencia, things are scarcely better. In less than two days about 500 people were attacked with the disease, and such was the scare that everyone who could escape (even employés who were bound to remain and brave the danger) escaped, so that very few people remain. In this town, also, the doctor and other authorities have all died. The mayor and others who remain are, however, behaving very pluckily. In Madrid, the disease continues the same; the number of attacks are about forty-two daily. The new Bishop summoned all the clergy to the episcopal palace, and has arranged the services which priests are to perform in every district when attending the sick, and carrying spiritual consolation wherever demanded. The prelate has also decided on a procession, and prayers against the cholera. I am very much afraid that this gathering of thousands will do anything but good.

GERMANY.—The International Telegraph Conference was opened in Berlin on Monday by Dr. Stephan, the German Postmaster-General, who acted as president. Thirty-three States and seventeen Cable Companies were represented. In the course of his address of welcome to the delegates, Dr. Stephan paid a warm tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Fawcett, at the mention of whose name the assembled delegates rose from their seats in token of respect.

An official return of the number of public schools in Berlin states that there are five State and 11 municipal gymnasiums, with 8,617 scholars; eight real gymnasiums, with 5,552 scholars; six superior schools for girls, with 4,375 scholars; and one preparatory State school, with 101 scholars. The middle and primary public schools comprise one seminary, one Royal Dramatic School for the corps de ballet, one higher municipal school, 22 preparatory schools, 116 communal free schools, with 132,889 scholars, one deaf and dumb school, one school for the blind, two orphanages, and 12 schools managed by various associations, making in all 221 public schools, with 158,412 scholars of both sexes. There are two schools for Jews and 90 private schools, with 21,195 scholars, so that the total number of children receiving education at Berlin this year is 179,607, or 9,882 more than last year.

The *Export*, a Berlin trade journal, states that the Central Geographical Association and the Export Bank are fitting out an expedition, the object of which is to found commercial establishments in distant countries. A vessel is to be loaded with complete collections of patterns and large quantities of goods, the property of various firms, which will embark at the same time a number of their clerks and commercial travellers, and the vessel, a sort of "floating exhibition," will then sail for the Mediterranean, along the shores of which German export houses have not, they think, sufficiently close relations. The vessel will then first visit the ports of North Africa and then the Levant, coming back by way of Salonica, the Piræus, Naples, and Barcelona. "The enterprise will not," says the *Export*, "be confined to ascertaining in each port the special class of goods for which there is likely to be a good demand, but friendly relations will be formed with German houses already established there, so as to exercise a constant influence upon the market, while in each of the ports where there is no German firm a representative will be selected from among the clerks of the expedition, and left there."

AUSTRIA.—Sir Henry Drummond Wolff arrived in Vienna on Wednesday morning on his way to Constantinople.

It is announced that a meeting between the Czar and the Emperor will take place towards the end of the month at Kremsier, in Moravia, where the summer palace of the Archbishop of Olmütz (Cardinal Fürstenberg) is already being fitted up for their reception. Kremsier, an old town of some 10,000 inhabitants, is known as the place to which the Austrian Reichstag transferred its sittings from the 15th of November, 1848, to the 7th of March, 1849, when Vienna was convulsed by the revolutionary movements.

Charles Harry Boydell, who was arrested here a fortnight ago, was convicted on Saturday last of having written threatening letters to Mr. Gladstone with a view to extort money. The prisoner was sentenced to six months' hard labour. In the course of the proceedings the prisoner confessed the authorship of the letters to Mr. Gladstone which had been read in Court, but stated that his only object in writing them was to be arrested and to be sent to London, as he was penniless. He further declared that at the time of writing the letters he was ill and excited. A note from the London police authorities was read containing a request from Mr. Gladstone that proceedings should not be taken against the prisoner, and also a letter from Boydell's mother to the judge who conducted the preliminary inquiry praying for her son's release. The prisoner was defended by counsel, who addressed the Court on his behalf before sentence was pronounced.

AMERICA.—The remains of General Grant were entombed on Saturday in Riverside Park, overlooking the Hudson River. The funeral pageant is reported to have been the grandest ever seen in America. Early in the morning (says the New York correspondent of the *Standard*) General Hancock led the Federal troops from the Battery, on the harbour, at the foot of Broadway, up to the City Hall, where they were halted. They included representatives of every branch of the military and naval services. The military were 25,000 strong, and were headed by General Hancock, with Admirals Rodgers and Stevens, ex-Confederate Generals Fitzhugh Lee and Gordon, Generals Sickles, Fry, Merritt, King, and several others among his aides-de-camp. At nine o'clock a chorus of men, in the mortuary chamber at the City Hall, sang Schubert's *Song of the Spirits* and the Pilgrims' Chorus from *Tannhäuser*. At ten o'clock the coffin was placed upon the catafalque, and the incident being announced by telegraph to every town and village throughout the United States, the bells of the churches over the entire continent tolled simultaneouly. Meanwhile General Hancock and his staff advanced, and as they uncovered the head of each column it wheeled into the line. When the procession was fully formed it consisted of a line of soldiery two and a half miles in length, which preceded the hearse. This was drawn by twenty-four black horses, led by negroes; and the hearse was escorted by a guard of honour consisting of members of the Grant and Wheeler Posts of the Grand Army of 1865. Immediately following the remains was a long array of mourning coaches, containing the three sons of the deceased, and the bearers of almost every name of distinction in the United States. In accordance with the express wish of Mrs. Grant, the pall-bearers in the first carriages included Generals Sherman and Sheridan, the Confederate Generals Johnston and Buckner, Admirals Porter and Norden, and several members of General Grant's Cabinet. President Cleveland, in a carriage drawn by six horses, came next, and after him were Vice-President Hendricks, the members of the present Cabinet, ex-Presidents Arthur and Hayes, the Governors of several States, the Diplomatic Corps, judges, senators, generals, mayors and corporate officials, and representatives of other public bodies. After the carriages, under the command of General Sickles, with a brilliant staff, marched nearly twenty thousand men, whose empty sleeves, and, in many cases, halting steps, whose torn craped flags and old-fashioned uniforms bespoke them what they were—the veterans of the Civil War. The troops marched with reversed arms—the bands playing funeral dirges—through a solid mass of spectators along the entire route of ten miles. The temporary tomb was reached at half-past four o'clock. The soldiers halted and presented arms as the hearse was led past. The funeral service at the tomb was opened with the brief ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic, after which three old comrades advanced and severally laid upon the coffin an evergreen, as the symbol of undying love; a full-blown white rose, the symbol of unselfish devotion; and a branch of laurel, emblematic of fame. Bishop Harris, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Mr. Newman, who had officiated at Mount McGregor, read the Burial Service of the Church. Two regiments of New York troops then advanced, and each fired three volleys of musketry; and a battery of regulars fired three salvoes, followed by the salute for a President. In the Hudson River Admiral Jowett had previously anchored the *Powhatan*, *Despatch*, *Swatara*, and *Alliance* steamers below the Riverside Park, and they saluted at the moment the corpse left the City Hall, and again when the tomb was reached. During the firing the little grandchild of General Grant and a daughter of Dr. Douglas laid upon the coffin a wreath of oak leaves, which, by their own impulse they had made at Mount M'Gregor. The family and nearer friends retired, and the attendants placed the coffin, which was covered with purple velvet and had solid silver ornaments, in a steel shell which weighed 3,000lb., and was bolted to the floor of the temporary tomb. Mr. Grant did not take part in the funeral, but remained at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. A notable feature of the procession was the horse General Grant rode in many of his battles. The old charger, saddled and bridled ready for the field, was led behind the catafalque.

BELGIUM.—The International Congress for Proportional Representation at Antwerp has terminated its sittings by adopting the following order of the day:—

1. "The absolute majority violates the principle of the liberty of election, provokes fraud and corruption, and may give the majority of the representation to the minority of the electoral body.

2. "Proportional representation is the only means for assuring power to the real majority, control to the minorities, and the exact representation of all serious groups of the electoral body.

3. "For the appreciation of the necessities of each country, the system of the composition of lists with a distributive number marks a considerable progress on the systems previously proposed, and constitutes a practical and rigorous mode for realising proportional representation."

INDIA.—It is announced from Simla that the Indian Government has directed that all suits in the Civil Courts affecting members of the native army shall have precedence over others in which only civilians are concerned.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* contradicts the report that the Afghans are hurrying forward troops to Zulfikar and that forward or aggressive movements have been made on the Ameer's part, although there are, he admits, appearances of agitation and unrest. He adds:—

"Notwithstanding persistent rumours to the contrary, it may be taken that the Government has no intention of advancing to Candahar unless as an answer to a Russian occupation of Herat. It is now, however, certain that early steps will be taken to establish a strong entrenched camp in the Pisheen Valley. General Macgregor and Major Nicholson leave Simla on the 21st to select a site for the camp. A powerful force stationed at Pisheen could throw itself into Candahar at a few days' notice, and there can be no doubt that such a movement would immediately follow any Russian attempt on Herat. It is more doubtful whether in any event British troops would advance beyond Candahar, or at least beyond the Helmund. The belief appears to be gaining ground that an expedition to Herat would be a strategic error, and that the better course would be to await an attack on the Helmund and at Candahar, at the same time carrying on offensive operations in other directions.

"It has been pointed out—and the suggestion is well worthy of attention—that the Ameer should be moved to consent to the immediate extension of the telegraph to Candahar and Herat. The difficulties of making a line would not be great. A strong ruler like the Ameer could guarantee its safety, and the Indian Telegraph Department could easily train a staff of Mohammedan clerks, whose presence would neither alarm nor irritate the Afghans. Such a line, besides being of the greatest use politically and strategically, would probably soon command a large commercial traffic, for during the British occupation of Candahar the merchants of that place were not slow to learn and avail themselves of the use of the wire. Moreover, when the line was once made to Herat it would be easy to connect it with the Persian system from Meshed and Russian Sarakhs, thus giving a new route between India and England. Another important strengthening of the frontier is about to be undertaken at once—namely, a new military road from Dera Ghazikhan to Pisheen. The general direction of the road will be by Fort Munroe, the Rakni Plain, the Chamalang and Bori valleys, and Yusaf Kutch. No great difficulties exist save crossing the Suliman range."

AFGHANISTAN.—The authorities at Herat are said to be buying and storing supplies of grain in that place. Two thousand men are engaged in repairing the fortifications, which are being strengthened by the construction of strong bastions. Great enthusiasm prevails among the Heratis, who are resolutely determined to defend the city in case of attack.

TURKEY.—Sir William White had a private audience of the Sultan on Saturday, and had a most cordial reception. The Sultan expressed his satisfaction at the mission of Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, with whom he was already acquainted, adding that his visit would afford him much pleasure. His Majesty avoided all allusion to the object of Sir Henry's mission, and did not touch upon politics in any way. Acceding to the representations made by Sir William White, the Porte has decided to settle the considerable arrears of pay due to the British officers serving in the Turkish Gendarmery; their engagements will not, however, be renewed.

It is said that differences of opinion exist in official circles concerning the attitude to be observed towards Sir Henry Drummond Wolff. The ex-Grand Viziers advise the Sultan to seize the opportunity of improving the relations between England and Turkey, but other personages in the Palace are intriguing against Sir Henry. The general opinion of Constantinople is that his mission will have no result.

EGYPT.—An Anglo-Egyptian Commission has been formed to examine the question of Gen. Gordon's paper money, of which a large amount was issued during the siege of Khartoum. It is suspected that extensive frauds will be attempted in connection with this currency. Nubar and Abd-el-Khader Pashas have drawn up proclamations for circulation in the Soudan, exhorting the "rebels" to return to their allegiance to the Khedive. Dongola is refilling. Khasr-el-Nus is forcing men into his service. He means to assume the dictatorship of the province. Meanwhile the rebel dervishes have arrived, and, ignoring him, are claiming tribute in the district.

It has been reported at Souakim that the Abyssinians have relieved the garrison of Fort Jarri, or Jirdeh, due south of Kassala. The strength of the garrison was about 400. They are supposed to have already safely crossed the Abyssinian frontier. The Government intends to send the Sheikh Morgani to Souakim to endeavour to bring Osman Digna to some arrangement, in view to the relief of Kassala. Major Chermside has received a letter from Ras Aloola's camp, dated the 30th ult., reporting an attack by the rebels in the middle of July upon Algeden, about fifty miles to the east of Kassala, in which the rebels were repulsed with the loss of seven sheikhs and 370 men. The garrison of Kassala is hard pressed by hunger. Ras Aloola is collecting levies.

It is announced from Belgrade that the districts of Rudnik, Jarjaek, and Usitza, in Servia, have been placed in a state of siege on account of insurrectionary disturbances.

A Zanzibar telegram announces that Commodore Paschen, commander of the German East African squadron, delivered on the 11th inst. to the Sultan of Zanzibar the preliminary demands of Germany, stating that in case of non-compliance friendly negotiations would be discontinued. An interval of twenty-four hours having elapsed without a reply being received, the vessels of the squadron took up a position in front of the Sultan's palace. According to private telegrams, however, the differences between the Sultan and the German Government have been arranged, the former acknowledging Germany's supremacy over the territory in dispute, and promising to withdraw his troops.

The St. Bernard Railway is likely to be commenced before very long, and to be, when completed, a dangerous competitor for the through traffic with the already existing route of St. Gothard. One of the principal features of the new project is that the indispensable tunnel under the Alps (at the Col Ferret) will be very much shorter than any other either constructed or proposed to be constructed. The length will be only nine and a half kilomètres (five and three-quarter miles), while the St. Gothard tunnel is fifteen (nine and a quarter miles), the Mont Cenis twelve, and those under the Simplon and Mont Blanc twenty and nineteen kilomètres respectively. The total length of the St. Bernard line will be but 138 kilomètres, or eighty-six miles, making a saving between London and Brindisi over the St. Gothard route of fifty-nine and a half miles.

Some statistics of accumulation, just issued from the office of the Government Statistician, show that the colony has made very substantial progress during the past ten years. The statistics prove that we are making very steady progress in the accumulation of wealth, although we are not advancing quite so rapidly as some of our neighbours. The population is estimated to have increased from 114,762 in 1880 to 130,541 at the end of 1884, since which time there has also been an increase. Taking the last decade, we find that there is a very satisfactory increase in genuine wealth, no matter how we test the figures. For example, in 1875 the deposits in the five banks in the colony amounted to £1,277,585, and in 1884 the amount was £4,022,167, or nearly four times as much. If we take the savings banks as a test of the condition of the working classes, we find an equally satisfactory state of affairs, for we have conclusive proof that people have been saving at a rate which, considering the difference in population, is not surpassed in any of the other colonies. In 1875 the number of accounts opened in the savings bank was 11,028, while in 1884 the number had increased to 19,061. The total amount of the deposits has grown from £289,222 in 1875 to £414,503 at the end of last year. Such an increase as this must be taken as evidence of the general progress of the colony, which is also shown by the fact that during the decade the valuation of property has increased from £604,347 to £837,916. It is also very satisfactory to be able to state that the vital statistics for the past year demonstrate that the health of the people is as good as ever it was, and that there are no signs of this climate, famous for its healthiness, deteriorating in any way.—*Hobart Mercury.*

The mosaics in most of the churches at Ravenna are, says the *Builder*, undergoing renovation; in fact, St. Apollinare Nuova and the Baptistery are the only ones in which a scaffolding is not erected for the purpose. And the latter of these two is threatened. The mosaics in it are not in a good condition, and appear to have been picked off as relics by visitors at their will. There is, and has been for some time (judging from the fact that it is reported in most guide-books), an idea of raising the whole building by machinery. At present it is what might be called an open sepulchre, only surpassed by the catacombs of St. Sebastian at Rome. Ravenna should not be visited by English travellers during the hot weather, as in most of the churches, in which places all the interest is centred, notably St. Vitale and St. Apollinare in Classe, there is stagnant water, which has a horribly putrid smell, within 18in. of the surface. The drinking water, which is much the same, is also very bad, and if taken, even with wine, produces uncomfortable results.

Six months ago a party of over forty missionaries left the Mersey for St. Paul de Loanda, South-West Africa, to conduct their work in that district, and as far as possible into the interior. The party went out under the auspices of an American Missionary Society, and was in charge of the American Bishop Taylor. The accounts which from time to time have been received in England have represented the missionaries as undergoing terrible hardships, and the latest information shows that those of the party who are alive are in a most deplorable condition. The party on leaving Liverpool included men, women, and children, and were evidently totally unacquainted with the nature of the country they were going to. Shortly after their arrival many of them were stricken down with the fever, and several of them died. The missionaries appear to have been ill provided with funds, and although two or three of the party have returned home, they were only enabled to do so by the consideration of the English steamship companies trading to the port. A gentleman who has been engaged trading at St. Paul de Loanda some time past has just arrived in England, and gave a sad account of their condition. It is feared that unless they return home soon many of the poor people will be victims to the virulence of the coast fever.

Pesth papers inform us that the plans for the complete rebuilding of the Castle of Buda, the palace of the Kings of Hungary since the foundation of the monarchy, have received the final approval of the Emperor Francis Joseph, who has charged the architect, Nicholas von Ybl, to proceed with the work without delay. The project has been under consideration for some years, and has been a matter of much personal interest for the Emperor. His Majesty will defray the whole of the cost of the work out of his private fortune. The architect's estimate is 6,500,000 florins (about £650,000), and the undertaking will occupy, it is supposed, over five years.

The census of Belgium, taken upon the 31st of December last, gives a total population of 5,784,958, of whom 2,890,812 are males and 2,894,146 females, showing an increase of 264,949 upon the census taken four years before. Brussels and its suburbs of Anderlecht, Elterbeck, Ixelles, Laeken, Molenbeck, St. Gilles, St. Josse-ten-Noode, and Scharbeck, which four years ago had a population of 394,910, has now 429,866 inhabitants, showing an increase of 34,926. The total population of the different provinces is as follows:—Brabant, 1,044,324; Hainault, 1,021,158; Eastern Flanders, 915,464; Western Flanders, 714,785; Liége, 702,149; Antwerp, 625,876; Namur, 331,095; Limburg, 216,794; and Luxemburg, 213,313. The principal towns all show a more or less considerable increase, Antwerp coming first with a population of 234,866, while of the others Ghent has 140,926 inhabitants, Liége, 133,044; Malines, 46,499; Bruges, 45,559; Verviers, 44,667; Lourain, 37,490; Tournai, 33,773; Seraing, 30,607; Courbray, 28,736; Namur, 27,067; Mons, 24,827; Alost, 22,143; and Charleroi, 20,064.

The *Novoe Vremya* has just published the following article on the subject of a proposed new Customs barrier in Central Asia. It begins by stating that "it has reason to believe that a careful investigation will be made along the whole extent of the Asiatic frontier for the purpose of forming a rigid Customs barrier which shall guarantee Russia's possessions in Central Asia against the encroachments of foreign merchandise. Up to the year 1867 it appears that the Customs circle followed the limits of the province of Ural and the Governments of Orenburg, Tobolsk, and Tomsk, or, to express the fact in different words, separated us from our own subjects the Kirghiz. After the annexation of Turkestan this line ceased to have any true meaning, and was consequently abolished. From that time until 1880 it only served to mark the line of taxation on the salt imported by the Kirghiz. Our Central Asian possessions were thus left for a long time in the position of places open to free trade, and circumstances soon showed how urgent it was to establish Custom-houses. The necessity of protecting our commerce, especially the trade in tea, which was unable to cope in Turkestan with that brought from India through Afghanistan, rendered this step of immediate and indisputable importance. With this object import duties have been imposed in Turkestan on certain objects, such as tea, muslin, &c., and in the year 1884 the receipts from them amounted to 250,000 roubles. But this very partial impost has not sufficed to attain our object, for with the gradual pacification of Asia the importation of foreign articles into Russia by way of Persia, India, and Afghanistan has increased year by year. The solution of the question of the delimitation of the Afghan frontier will open a wide door for English commerce, which has been able to establish itself within our Asiatic provinces notwithstanding all the difficulties of conveyance through the minor Khanates. When tranquillity has been restored in these countries, where the English are now actively engaged in making roads and laying down railways, their commerce will be established on a much more solid foundation, and we must even fear that English goods, particularly tea and manufactured articles, will not only make their way into Turkestan and the Transcaspian provinces, but will also inundate Siberia, the Caucasus, and Eastern Russia. The Russian railway now being constructed between Kizil Arvat and the Amou Darya will further facilitate this commercial movement." In order to provide against this eventuality, the *Novoe Vremya* states that "the Customs authorities propose to trace a Customs barrier from the mouth of the Atrek along our Asiatic frontier as far as the almost inaccessible heights of the Thian Shan. For the sake of convenience and as a measure of economy, it has been decided to include within this barrier both Khiva and Bokhara. These Khanates can only benefit by this arrangement, for they will have a share in the revenues derived from it in proportion to their population. The execution of this scheme will no doubt entail a very considerable expenditure, even admitting that the employment of the Cossacks and native militia as Customs officials should do away with the necessity of creating fresh cadres; but this expense should not be regarded as thrown away. Its immediate consequence would be to increase the revenue by at least a million. This new Customs bond would also tend to knit Bokhara and Khiva more closely with us in matters of political economy, as well as simplify the settlement of any questions that may arise on the Persian and Afghan borders. The last consideration that may be urged in favour of this proposal is the practical use to which the large bodies of troops garrisoned in this region may be turned for the advantage of the State Exchequer."

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

IRELAND.

The improvement in Lord Carnarvon's health is steadily maintained, but his Excellency is still suffering from debility. The following bulletin was issued on Thursday:—"Viceregal Lodge, twelve noon.—His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant is free from pain to-day, but is still extremely weak."

The Board of Trade inquiry into the stranding of the *City of Amsterdam* at Lambay, on July the 23rd, was concluded at Dublin on Wednesday, when the Court suspended for three months the certificates of Captain Jones and the first mate.

The Right Hon. John Naish, ex-Lord Chancellor of Ireland, has been appointed a permanent Lord Justice of the Court of Appeal in Ireland.

The annual Diocesan Synods of Ferns, Ardfert and Aghadoe, Leighlin, and Killaloe were held last week. The chief topics of general interest in the presidential addresses were the attempt to deprive the Church of Ireland of its title, and the claims of the Kildare-place Training College. In regard to finance it may be mentioned to the credit of the diocese of Leighlin that of £69,110, the total assessment which ought to have been collected in the course of fourteen years, £68,314 has been paid, the actual deficiency, supposing that it is never recovered, being only about 6d. in the pound.

The anniversary of the relief of Derry was commemorated on Wednesday with the usual services in the Cathedral, a procession, and a meeting in Enniskillen. A large meeting was held under the presidency of Lord Cole, and was addressed by the chairman, Lord Crichton, and other speakers. A resolution, moved by Lord Crichton, expressed an earnest hope that no political party in the State would endeavour to purchase for themselves a temporary triumph by an alliance with those whose main object was the subversion of the Protestant religion and the destruction of the Empire. His Lordship referred with regret to recent indiscreet utterances of a prominent member of the Government, and expressed a hope that his colleagues would induce him to be more circumspect in future.

A dastardly outrage was committed on Wednesday night near Croom, county Limerick. It appears that some time ago Mr. Reeves, the son-in-law of Mr. Shanahan, residing in the locality, was evicted from a holding which he had held from Dr. Lyons, M.P. Negotiations had been pending between the parties with a view to his being reinstated in possession, and the late tenant got the loan of Mr. Shanahan's horse to cart hay for Dr. Lyons. On Wednesday night the mare, a very valuable one, was found stabbed and otherwise seriously injured, so much so that it is feared the animal cannot recover. A veterinary surgeon was at once sent for on the outrage being discovered, and has taken the mare in charge. No arrests in connection with the occurrence have been effected.

The Irish National League of Great Britain have issued a manifesto to the Irish electors in English and Scotch constituencies, drawing attention to the fact that the 20th of August is the last day for sending in claims. They say:—"The duty of the Irish electors in the coming general election is more important and more sacred than at any previous period of Irish history. It is probable that it is the Irish electors in English and Scotch constituencies that will exercise the controlling and the final voice in the great struggle for Irish independence. The Irish National party is assured of sweeping the vast majority of the Irish constituencies. Nobody—friend or foe—denies or doubts this. The one doubtful point then is, whether the great majority sent from Ireland will find English parties in such a position as to be able to command and decide their rise or fall from power. It is the Irish in England and Scotland who will have to decide this. It is the Irish in England and Scotland, then, who have the final and decisive voice in the success and complete victory of the cause of Ireland in the immediate future. The Irishman to whom a vote gives such a commanding influence over the fortunes of this country will be base who neglects the opportunity of obtaining his vote."

The draft of a prosecutus for a new bank upon the reconstruction of the Munster Bank has been issued for private circulation among the directors and shareholders' committee. The new name proposed is the Munster and Leinster Banking Company (Limited), with six directors, three for each province. The headquarters are to be at Cork, the capital 150,000 £5 shares, with a first call of £2 each, producing £300,000 to commence with, and the use of buildings and officials, excepting the manager at Cork, who is dispensed with. Shareholders will be offered preference shares equal to the present number held, balance to depositors, and remainder to go into the market. Restrictions are made against directors over-drawing or shareholders pawning securities without searching investigation.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

On the question that the River Thames (No. 2) Bill do pass, Lord Abingdon, to meet the views of the riparian proprietors who objected to the Bill as it stood, moved an amendment providing that nothing in the measure should be construed as taking away from riparian proprietors any rights which they at present possessed. Lord Bramwell said that if the amendment were agreed to he should not oppose the passing of the Bill. The amendment was agreed to, and the Bill was then passed. The order for the third reading of the Burgh Police and Health (Scotland) Bill was discharged. The Summary Jurisdiction (Term of Imprisonment) Bill was read a second time. Lord Dunraven, answering a series of questions by Lord Wemyss, stated that the subject of certain proposed improvements in the Martini-Henry rifle was under the consideration of a Committee at the War Office. Lord Salisbury, in reply to an appeal from Lord Milltown, stated that he did not think the title "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland" would be a desirable substitute for that of "Great Britain" in State papers. Lord Iddesleigh, in making a statement with regard to the proposed Royal Commission on the depression in various branches of industry, explained that the task of the Commission would be to obtain information for the guidance of whatever Government might be in power when it made its report rather than to recommend a policy. He had applied to Mr. Goschen to serve on it, but that right hon. gentleman replied that for many reasons, which he felt it unnecessary to give, he must decline the invitation. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and Mr. Cross, both of whom had been members of the late Government, were subsequently asked to serve on the Commission, but they also declined to do so. The noble Lord, having stated to their Lordships the names of the gentlemen who had consented to serve, expressed his opinion that the sound doctrines of Free Trade would come well out of the inquiry, and his regret that any statesmen should have refused to be named on the Commission through an apprehension that they might not be able to maintain in the inquiry a policy which they had always upheld. Lord Granville thought the inquiry was not desirable, because in could not be attended with any practical result. Having referred to the fact that Lord Beaconsfield had expressed the same opinion, he expressed his surprise that Lord Salisbury should have thought the inquiry to be at all necessary, inasmuch as on a recent occasion that noble Lord intimated that, owing to the present Government, there would be an improvement in trade within two or three months. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and Mr. Cross objected to the constitution of the Commission, which would have on it a great preponderance of Conservatives and Fairtraders, or, in other words, Protectionists. It could not be supposed that either they or Mr. Goschen had declined to serve from any apprehension of not being able to maintain the principles of free trade. Lord Salisbury did not remember the exact words used by him in the utterance to which Lord Granville had referred; but, he asked, what had his sayings to do with a Commission of which he was not to be a member? He presumed that the utterance referred to was one in which he pointed out that a feeling of confidence as to the policy of the Government abroad and at home was calculated to have a beneficial effect on trade. He pointed out that the Liberal authorities referred to could not have known the constitution of the Commission when they were asked to join it, because it had not then been constituted; and he thought that such petty considerations as that of the Commission having been proposed by a Government to which they were opposed ought not to have influenced statesmen when great interests were to be investigated. Members of the Liberal party having declined to serve on the Commission, now found fault with it on the ground that it did not contain a large element of that party. Lord Granville explained that, when applied to, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and Mr. Cross asked to see how the Commission was to be constituted, and Lord Iddesleigh sent them a number of names, which were in the main those read to their Lordships that evening. Lord Iddesleigh observed that no person had been appointed at the time. As to several of the gentlemen since named, he did not know whether they were Fairtraders or Freetraders. On the motion that the report of amendments in the Labourers' (Ireland) Act be received, their Lordships divided, and the motion was agreed to by 43 to 5. The Appropriation Bill was read a third time and passed. Lord Beauchamp moved that their Lordships agree to the amendments of the Commons in the Criminal Law Amendment Bill. In a conversation which followed, Lord Granville expressed his belief that the course taken by Parliament in respect of the Bill had not been the result of recent publications; Lord Milltown strongly denounced those publications; Lord Mount-Temple said he could not agree that the publicity given to a horrible state of things had not had the effect of stimulating the action which had resulted in this Bill; and the Bishop of Winchester expressed the satisfaction of the Right Rev. Bench at the adoption of the Bill.

The amendments of the Commons were agreed to, and their Lordships rose at five minutes past eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, answering questions from Lord Hartington as to the course of business, said that the business of the Government for the rest of the Session consisted virtually of the first two Bills on the paper—the Housing of the Working Classes and the Land Purchase Bills; and though he could not name a day for the prorogation, he hoped it would not be long delayed. The Government would give facilities for the enfranchisement of the Police Bill, but their own business must precede it, and it must depend on the House whether it was to be passed. Asked by Mr. Arnold as to his speech at Bristol, the Chancellor of the Exchequer reiterated his opinion that service on such a Commission was a duty which those who were asked to serve on it owed to their country; and in reply to Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, who desired that his correspondence with Lord Iddesleigh should be published, he promised to give an answer after consulting Lord Iddesleigh. In answer to Sir W. Barttelot, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he would move the Vote of Thanks to the Army and Navy engaged in the Soudan on Thursday. Sir R. Cross, in moving the second reading of the Dwellings of the Working Classes Bill, pointed out that there were two evils to be dealt with—the overcrowding of houses within a certain area and the insanitary condition of the houses themselves. He reminded the House of what had already been done, though the Act which he himself had passed had not been as operative as it might have been, owing to the extravagant manner in which it had been administered. Discussing the leading provisions of the Bill, he intimated his readiness to accept modifications in regard to the sites and other clauses. Mr. L. Stanley, though he was willing to see the Bill pass, regretted that the Government had decided to deal with the subject in a piecemeal fashion, and would have preferred to wait until a system of local government had been established. Especially he objected to the manner in which the prison sites were to be thrown away. Sir C. Dilke, criticising the observations of Mr. Stanley, maintained that the Bill was drawn practically upon the basis of the report of the Royal Commission, and contended that he had failed to give any illustrations of the particulars in which it differed from that report. He denied that the Bill was a centralising measure, and

pointed out that all the motions on the paper in opposition to it merely dealt with clauses which might be amended in Committee, and which, he contended, did not afford sufficient grounds for rejecting the whole Bill. The principal question, he admitted, was whether the Bill should be accepted as a temporary measure, or whether the whole question should be delayed until a scheme of Local Government reform had been secured. He preferred that the Bill should pass this session. Mr. Monckton briefly dealt with the clauses relating to sanitation, and especially objected to liability for inefficient sanitation being thrown upon the landlord. Mr. Hollond deprecated the centralising tendencies of the Bill, and maintained that, even in a temporary measure, means should be taken to throw more of the burden of providing artisans' dwellings upon ground landlords. Mr. Broadhurst regretted that the Bill had been brought forward this session, because it might delay a more comprehensive measure, and complained of the absence of adequate provision for the appointment of competent sanitary inspectors. Mr. Collings, while approving of the Bill as far as it went, criticised its incompleteness, and recommended its postponement to another session, when the question could be more thoroughly dealt with. Sir G. Goldney spoke in support of the Bill; and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre thought it would be a misfortune not to do something this session to carry out some of the recommendations of the Royal Commission, but hoped the Government would consent to postpone its contentious clauses until next session. Mr. A. J. Balfour, replying to objections, denied that overcrowding and insanitary dwellings had their origin in ground leases; and, while admitting that the clause dealing with the metropolitan prisons' sites was open to argument, urged the desirability of discussing the Bill in Committee rather than upon the motion for the second reading. After some remarks from Mr. Firth, Mr. Torrens spoke of the importance of securing breathing ground in London as well as sanitary dwellings; and Sir R. Cross having appealed to the House to defer further discussion until the motion to go into Committee, when the Government amendments, he said, would be known, the Bill was read a second time and the Committee fixed for Tuesday. On going into Committee on the Land Purchase (Ireland) Bill, the Attorney-General for Ireland stated the names of the two Commissioners—Mr. J. G. M'Carthy and Mr. Stanislaus Lynch. Mr. H. Davey took the opportunity of expressing his misgivings as to the soundness of the principle on which the Bill is founded, and his doubts whether it would effect its objects. He regarded its terms as too liberal and its safeguards as illusory, and feared that the experiment could not stop with this Bill. Sir G. Campbell spoke in a similar strain, and Mr. Bryce dwelt on the dangers of making Great Britain the mortgagee of the land of Ireland. On the other hand, Mr. Sinclair defended the Bill in a maiden speech. Mr. Plunket exhorted the House to proceed at once to a consideration of the clauses, and after a few words from Mr. Shaw-Lefevre in vindication of his own consistency, the House went into Committee on the Bill. An amendment to Clause 2 to leave out the guarantee of a one-fifth deposit gave rise to considerable discussion, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer having stated that the Government looked upon it as of supreme importance for the protection of the taxpayer, the amendment was ultimately withdrawn; but another amendment, moved by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, limiting the amount to be advanced to any one tenant to £3,000, was agreed to. An amendment to Clause 4, moved by Mr. T. Dickson, to confer the benefits of the Act upon the glebe tenants under the Irish Church Act, 1869, and tenants under the Land Acts of 1870 and 1881, was negatived on a division by 56 to 12, and the clause was agreed to. Some other amendments were discussed, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

Lord Waterford moved that their Lordships do not insist on their amendments in the Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders Bill, with which amendments the Commons had disagreed. Lord Fitzgerald moved, as an amendment, that their Lordships do insist on their amendments in the Bill, and appoint a Committee to confer with the Commons. The motion was carried by 21 to 10, so that their Lordships did not insist on their amendments. The County Officers and Courts (Ireland) Pensions Bill was read a second time and put through its remaining stages. The Commons' Amendments in the Sea Fisheries (Scotland) Amendment Bill were considered and agreed to. The Labourers (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed. Lord Iddesleigh, in answer to Lord Stratheden and Campbell, said he saw no reason to postpone further action on the Public Sites Act until after the general election; and, in reply to Lord Lothian, he said he would communicate with the trustees of the National Gallery on the subject of opening it to the public on three evenings in every week.

Their Lordships, at a quarter to 6 o'clock, adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the Standing Order regulating Wednesday sittings be suspended in respect to this day; and, in answer to Mr. Chamberlain, he said the vote of thanks to our Forces engaged in the Soudan would be taken first, and after that the remaining stages of the Housing of the Working Classes and the Land Purchase Bills. In this way, he said, he hoped that the House might adjourn over Thursday, and the prorogation might be taken on Friday or Saturday at the latest. He promised that at the end of the Government business to-day he would move the adjournment of the House, and when Mr. C. Kennard made an appeal on behalf of the Police Enfranchisement Bill, and Mr. Bryce on behalf of the Infants Bill, he said it was impossible to make exception in favour of particular Bills. Mr. Broadhurst proposed to move the adjournment of the House in order to call attention to the composition of the Royal Commission on Trade; but as only twenty-one members stood up in their places to support his demand, he was not able to carry out his intention. On the motion to go into Committee on the Housing of the Working Classes Bill, Mr. Alderman Lawrence made some general observations on the Bill, of which he approved, as did also Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Warton; Mr. Bryce dwelt on the dangers of State socialism which he discerned in the Bill; and Mr. Pell, who deprecated legislation in a hurry, examined the effects of the Bill in the rural districts, contending that it was out of harmony with previous legislation. Sir S. Waterlow expressed satisfaction that an attempt was being made this session to carry out some of the recommendations of the Royal Commissioners; but Mr. Hopwood, who entered upon a long criticism of the details of the Bill, advocated delay. Mr. Buchanan asked for some information as to the application of the Bill to Scotland; Mr. A. Grey regretted that it should be passed with so little consideration by the country; and Mr. Gregory disapproved the powers to be conferred on rural sanitary authorities. Mr. Thomasson also spoke, and, a division being taken, the motion to go into Committee was carried by 59 to 6. The clauses were then considered, and on Clause 3, which disposes of the metropolitan prison sites, an amendment moved by Mr. Hollond, with the object of deferring the subject until another session, gave rise to a prolonged and animated discussion, in the course of which Mr. A. Grey expressed his determination to oppose the Bill line by line unless the Government assented to the amendment. Sir R. Cross proposed, as a compromise, to omit from the clause all reference to the price at which the sites were to be sold; but this was not considered sufficient by Mr. Arnold and Mr. Bryce, and Sir R. Cross thereupon suggested that the sites should be disposed of at a fair market price, to be settled by agreement or arbitration. In the course of further discussion, Mr. H. Davey opposed the clause; Sir S. Waterlow contended that the sites ought to be sold at the best price obtainable; and Mr. A. Elliot appealed to the Government to carry out their pledge not to persevere with contentious business, and to withdraw the clause. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and Sir W. Barttelot joined in this appeal, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he thought at present there was not sufficient proof that the question in dispute was substantially what might be called contentious matter. He suggested that a division should be taken, when the Government would be better able to judge as to how far the House was divided in opinion on the clause. A division was accordingly taken, and Mr. Hollond's amendment was negatived by sixty-nine to twenty. After some further conversation the amendment of Sir R. Cross—providing that the sites shall be sold at a fair market price to be settled by agreement or arbitration—was agreed to with the further addition "having regard to the object for which they are to be used." Sir R. Cross next moved an amendment giving power to the London School Board to obtain sites, and an addition to this, extending the power to any public Elementary school, moved by Mr. Tomlinson, was carried by sixty-six to thirty-two, upon which Mr. Collings moved to report progress on the ground that a new denominational element had been introduced into the Bill. This was negatived by eighty-two to twenty-two, and further opposition being offered, Sir R. Cross got over the difficulty by withdrawing the amendment. On the question that the clause stand part of the Bill, the objections to its principle were again urged by Mr. A. Grey, who invited its opponents to join in the discussion. Sir C. Dilke pointed out that the clause was necessary to enable the Government to sell the sites, and that similar powers had been given to owners of settled property. Mr. Arnold, Mr. Davey, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Pell, Mr. Dillwyn, and other members having joined in the appeal to the Government to withdraw the clause, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that if the division on the clause showed an increased minority the Government would not proceed with the clause. A division being taken, seventy-five voted for the clause and twenty-nine against it; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, recognising the increase in the minority, promised to strike out the provision as to market value on report. Clauses 4 to 12 were agreed to with the exception of Clause 9, which was omitted, and Clause 13 was agreed to with an amendment limiting its operation to habitations occupied by the working classes. An amendment to Clause 14, providing that the expression "cottage" should include an acre of garden instead of half an acre, was negatived on a division by 51 to 16; and ultimately the Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Wednesday.

Lord Salisbury moved a vote of thanks to Lord Wolseley, Sir Gerald Graham, Lord John Hay, Sir F. C. A. Stephenson, Sir W. N. W. Hewett, and the troops, seamen, and marines engaged in the expedition of 1884-85 by the Nile to the Soudan; and an acknowledgment of the distinguished valour, devotion, and conduct of General Gordon, Generals Earle and Sir Herbert Stewart, and the other officers and men who perished during the campaign in the Soudan. Lord Carrington, in the unavoidable absence of Lord Granville, seconded the motion, and in doing so made special mention of the colonial assistance to the mother country in the Soudan expedition. The Duke of Cambridge expressed his opinion that no troops had ever performed their duty more creditably than had those to whom the vote applied, and the same thing was to be said of the seamen and marines who were included in it. The vote was then agreed to *nem. con.* Lord Iddesleigh made an explanation to show that in the constitution of the Royal Commission on the depression in industry he had not been neglectful of the claims of labour to be represented on the Commission. Having suspended their sitting until certain Bills were brought up from the House of Commons, their Lordships rose at five minutes past 7.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in moving a vote of thanks to the officers and men engaged in the Nile Expedition and the two expeditions to Souakim and the Eastern Soudan, in an eloquent and feeling speech touched briefly on the principal features of those campaigns, and, amid loud cheers from both sides, dwelt on the fact that if there had been any failure in their objects it was not due to the want of skill or bravery on the part of our troops, who were able to cope with every obstacle but that of time. In the two Soudan campaigns the arduous efforts which our troops had been called on to make displayed the highest military qualities, and they had conquered by unfailing discipline and cool, resourceful courage, which had attracted universal admiration. The difficulties of the climate and the route, and the fanatic bravery of the enemy had been met by patient and heroic endurance and an undaunted gallantry not to be surpassed in the proudest records of the British Army. He touched also, in fitting terms, on the salient features of the Nile campaign, on the ability with which it had been planned and carried out; and, remarking on the different nationalities engaged in our ranks—British and Indian, Kroomen and Soudanese, Canadians and Australians, serving side by side—he bore testimony to the spirit of good fellowship which had animated them all, and said it proved that this country need not fear in any emergency to meet the world in arms. He paid a tribute also to the memory of Gordon, Stewart, and Earle; and Lord Hartington, in seconding the vote, expressed the pleasure which it gave him and his late colleagues to associate themselves in recognising that, though the results of the expedition might not have been equal to expectation, that was not due to any want of skill or bravery on the part of our officers and men. Of the Nile campaign he said, as a whole, that it reflected the utmost credit on Lord Wolseley, who had planned it, and all who were concerned in carrying it out, and it justified the commendations bestowed by Count Von Moltke on the heroism, the hardiness, and the endurance of our troops. Speaking of the attempt to reach Khartoum, he took the opportunity of expressing his belief that Sir C. Wilson had cleared himself of the charge of undue delay. After expressing regret that precedents did not admit mention of the names of General Hudson, Colonel Denison, and Colonel Richardson, he bore testimony to the efficiency of the departments at home, and declared that, though the campaigns had not achieved a permanent effect, they did credit to the British Army and proved that the British Empire was a reality and not a name. The vote of thanks was then agreed to *nem. con.*, amid loud cheers. The House then took up the report of the Housing of the Working Classes Bill, when Sir R. Cross, in accordance with the understanding come to on Tuesday, moved an amendment to Clause 2, to provide that the metropolitan prisons should only be sold "at a fair market price," and, the amendment having been agreed to, some other amendments were disposed of, and the Bill was read a third time. The Lords' amendments to the Labourers' (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill were considered and some disagreed with. The Educational Endowments (Ireland) Bill was passed through Committee. Mr. Broadhurst was calling attention to the composition of the Royal Commission on Trade Depression, when

The House stood adjourned at five minutes past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

On the consideration of the Commons' amendments to the Prevention of Crimes Amendment Bill the first two amendments were agreed to, but the third, excluding Ireland from the operation of the Act, was on the motion of Lord Milltown disagreed to. On the motion of Lord Ashbourne the Commons' amendments to the Land Purchase (Ireland) Bill were agreed to. On the consideration of the Commons amendments to the Housing of the Working Classes Bill, Lord Bramwell objected to the provision by which a landlord is made liable for the insanitary condition of his house, and on the motion of Lord Salisbury the Commons' amendment to the clause affecting this provision was disagreed to. The other amendments were agreed to. The amendments to the Labourers (Ireland) Bill and to the Poor Law Union Officers (Ireland) Bill were agreed to, and at ten minutes past three the sitting was suspended during pleasure. On the sitting being resumed their Lordships agreed to the Commons' amendments to the Educational Endowments (Ireland) Bill, and agreed not to insist further on their disagreement with the Commons' amendment to the Prevention of Crimes Amendment Bill.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter past four.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

In answer to a question of Sir W. Barttelot, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said there were hopes that the garrison of Kassala would be relieved, but he could not say more. Mr. W. H. Smith announced that it had been decided to allow special gratuities to the forces engaged in the Nile and Souakim expeditions. Every man engaged in the Nile expedition who had advanced beyond Wady Halfa would receive £5, and those engaged at Souakim who had been on shore would receive £2 per man, the officers receiving gratuities in proportion to their rank. An Egyptian medal with two special clasps would be issued, and the whole cost, it was expected, would be defrayed from the Vote of Credit. The Educational Endowments (Ireland) Bill was considered and amended, and read a third time. The Housing of the Working Classes Bill was returned from the Lords with their Lordships' reasons for disagreeing with one of the Commons' amendments, making the landlord responsible for the insanitary condition of a house, and the House resolved not to insist upon it. The Prevention of Crimes Amendment Bill was also brought down with the Commons' amendments' amended, and the House resolved to insist on its amendment excluding Ireland from the Bill.

The House was counted out at a quarter past four o'clock.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the dignity of the rank of a Viscount upon General Lord Wolseley, G.C.B.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir John Strachey, G.C.S.I., C.I.E., to be a member of the Council of India, in the room of Sir Barrow Ellis, K.C.S.I., whose period of office has recently expired.

The Queen has appointed the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, President of the Board of Trade, to be Secretary of State for Scotland, with a seat in the Cabinet.

Sir Henry Ernest Bulwer, G.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Natal, has been appointed Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Cyprus, in the place of Sir Robert Biddulph, K.C.M.G., whose time of holding that appointment is about to lapse.

The Royal Commission on the Depression in Trade held its first sitting at Richmond-terrace on Thursday morning, Lord Iddesleigh in the chair.

It is announced that both the Conservative Associations at Greenwich have declined to be bound by the decision of the arbitrators in the dispute between Baron Henry de Worms and Mr. Boord as to who shall be the candidate.

Earl Stanhope presided at a Conservative gathering at Chevening, near Sevenoaks, on Thursday, in support of the candidature of Mr. C. W. Mills for the Sevenoaks Division of Kent His Lordship, in bidding them welcome, said he should have been glad if the welcome had gone beyond mere words, and he could have extended to them the hospitality of Chevening. They lived, however, under a Corrupt Practices Act, which bristled with penalties. They might ask, What was Conservatism? In his judgment, Conservatism meant defence of the Empire abroad and enlightened and steady progress in home affairs, and not to be sweeping away the old things because they were old, but to sweep away such things only as retarded the enlightened progress of the age. It was said that the Government which succeeded the late Administration longed for power. They had a higher object to consider—namely, what was best for the country in home and foreign affairs. Already in the short time which they had reigned over the country there was a marked improvement. The previous day they passed an Act to improve the housing of the poor in London and the vast and crowded centres of population, and he earnestly hoped and believed it would have a lasting effect on the prosperity of the nation. Moreover, they had made land saleable in Ireland. They might ask what was to be the future of the Liberal party. That was a difficult question to answer. He might say that Mr. Gladstone's umbrella was well-nigh worn out. Mr. Gladstone, who was seventy-six years of age, was unfortunately in bad health, and though he had the greatest respect for Mr. Gladstone, whom he had the honour to know personally, yet in the ordinary nature of events it was not possible that the right hon. gentleman could long continue to wield the destinies of this country. Who was to succeed him? Lord Hartington? Mr. Chamberlain? or was it to be Sir Charles Dilke? He believed the Liberal party was not able to answer the question themselves. So far as he could discover, the policy of the Liberal party was to grope about in order to pull down something which they saw in their way. That sort of policy could hardly commend itself to the sense and common judgment of the people of this country. He had recently had a pamphlet placed in his hand giving thirty-six reasons for supporting Liberal candidates, and amongst those reasons was this, that the Liberals had increased trade both at home and abroad. Had trade improved in this country during the last five years? Had prices improved? and was employment more frequent? He knew from his own experience that, so far from trade having improved either at home or abroad, it was the exact reverse. Another reason put forward in the pamphlet for supporting Liberal candidates was that the Liberal party had reduced taxation. Could they for a moment consider that argument without a smile? Why, the Liberal party had added eleven millions of taxes to the country without anything to show for it, except failure and disgrace, and loss of men and money. If they looked over the Budget returns for the last twelve years they would find the Liberal expenditure exceeded the Conservative expenditure by about nine millions a year. He did not quarrel with expenditure, provided that they saw something had been gained by it. But he did quarrel with expenditure when nothing was gained by it except dishonour and disgrace. The Income-tax had been increased to eightpence. Many present might say, "What was that?" He could simply reply, "Everything." An eightpenny Income-tax had a tendency to raise cottage rents, and it also had a tendency to diminish the amount of money which could be given in the employment of labour. It was said that the Conservative party were against any reform in the tenure of land. Why, the greatest reform which had been passed with regard to land was due to the late Lord Cairns. Under the Settled Estates Act an enormous transfer of land had taken place. It was also said that land was scarce, and hard to be obtained. Any person who lived in that neighbourhood knew perfectly well that land was a drug in the market. He knew himself there were over eight hundred acres in and about Cudham which were to be obtained, and not at a high price. One of the objects which the Conservatives were most anxious to see advanced was that a larger number of occupiers should hold their own land as freehold.

A meeting was held on Thursday night at the Clifton Hall, York-road, St. Pancras, in support of Mr. R. G. Webster, the Conservative candidate for East St. Pancras. The chair was occupied by Mr. Clements, who, introducing Mr. Webster, remarked that a great change had come over the Liberal party since the times when it included such leaders as Palmerston, Russell, Grey, Herbert, and Lewis; and those who thought that in supporting the late Government they were supporting the traditional Liberal policy made a most unfortunate mistake. Referring to the candidature of Mr. Eccleston Gibb, the speaker observed that the position of that gentleman as vestry clerk of St. Pancras would render it difficult for him to properly represent the borough in Parliament. He would assure Mr. Webster that he would receive the undivided support of the Conservative party in St. Pancras. Mr. Webster, who was received with loud and long-continued cheering, observed that Liberal candidates at the present time were eminently deserving of sympathy and pity. They knew not what principles to profess or what platform to adopt, and resembled political Micawbers, waiting for something to turn up. It was useless for them to accuse the Conservative party of not having promoted useful legislation, for facts were against them in the Factory Acts, the Artisans' Dwellings Act, and now again in the Housing of the Poor Bill and the Commission of Inquiry into the Depression in Trade. The latter subject was brought home to a borough like St. Pancras, in which were the termini and storehouses of two great railways, besides numerous important manufactories. He asked them to contrast Conservative with Liberal finance, and they would find which party burdened the country with excessive taxation. Money and blood had been spent like water and without any profitable result. Having declared his intention to support Voluntary schools and to oppose the disestablishment of the

Church, Mr. Webster asked the electors to return him to Parliament to support the Government of Lord Salisbury—a Government that would promote useful domestic legislation at home, and maintain the honour and integrity of the Empire abroad. On the motion of Mr. Kitner, seconded by Mr. Miles, a vote of confidence in Mr. Webster was carried by an overwhelming majority. A cordial vote of thanks having been accorded the chairman, on the motion of Mr. Lennox Irwin, the proceedings terminated.

Mr. Chamberlain, writing to the Kilmarnock Liberal Association, says:—"I rejoice to think that the time is not distant when the question of disestablishment both in Scotland and England will occupy a foremost place in the Liberal programme. I am convinced that the next general election will give a great impetus to the movement, and will throw much light on the position of the State in agricultural districts."

Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., speaking at Cardinham, near Bodmin, on Wednesday night, defended what he termed his "political nonconformity," urging that there were occasions when a party man was justified in dissenting from the leaders and the majority of his own side of the House—nay, when he was bound to do so. He illustrated his position by referring to some of the occasions when he had spoken and voted against the Liberal majority, especially with reference to the annexation of the Transvaal. Mr. Gladstone condemned it during the Mid-Lothian campaign, but it was not until after Majuba that he restored to the Boers the territory of which they had been unrighteously deprived. The restitution of the Transvaal was a magnificent and glorious thing; but how much more glorious, noble, and beneficial would it have been had he done it immediately on his accession to office. The trouble had not yet been got rid of, and it would be a long and difficult task to re-establish good feeling between the Boers and ourselves. He claimed on this question to have been a dissenter worthy of approbation. Mr. Courtney also referred to the Egyptian policy of the late Government, and on being challenged as to why he did not leave the Ministry upon the question said it was well known by Mr. Gladstone and Lord Hartington that he objected to and protested against their policy all through, and Lord Hartington had admitted it. Upon the Afghan question, again, he had contended all along that it was our policy to let the Ameer alone and confine ourselves to defending India proper, and he only regretted that he had not insisted more clearly than he did on the necessity of going back to the old policy of Lord Lawrence. As it was, we were bound to the Ameer by obligations which must be fulfilled, and which would involve an additional burden of three or four millions a year on the poor and already overtaxed people of India.

Sir F. Milner, having obtained denials from Lord Salisbury, Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord St. Oswald, and Mr. Parnell that there had been any compact between the Conservative party and the Parnellites, has called upon Mr. Herbert Gladstone to withdraw his statement to this effect. In the course of a long letter Mr. Herbert Gladstone says:—"If it pleases Sir F. Milner and his distinguished correspondents I am quite ready to withdraw my assertion that Lord Salisbury made a compact with Mr. Parnell, and to apologise for having used language that correctly enough describes the practical result of the transaction I was referring to, but which perhaps does not accurately convey to those outside the House of Commons the methods by which it was arrived at. Lord St. Oswald's letter denying my allegations would been more to the point if it stated the subjects of the long and confidential conversation which took place between Mr. Rowland Winn and one of Mr. Parnell's leading colleagues in an upstair corridor of the House of Commons not long before the defeat of the late Government." After describing recent events, Mr. H. Gladstone proceeds:—"What is the meaning of all this? No rational man can suppose that Lord Salisbury would have acquiesced in it of his own free will, and it is transparently clear to all Liberals and most Tories that a bargain, though not set forth in black and white, exists and is being adhered to by the Government and the Nationalist party. . . . . For my own part I do not regret what has occurred. The policy of the Tories has given an immeasurable impetus to the demand for the reform of the Irish Government and for the establishment of a system of government founded upon the will and the trust of the people, the benefits of which will, I believe, amply repay the country for the damage done to political consistency and morality by the discreditable and cowardly action of the Tory Administration."

The revenue received from April 1 to the 8th inst. amounts to £28,000,479, or £14,662 less than the £28,015,141 received in the corresponding period ending August 9, 1884. The expenditure up to the 8th inst. was £34,735,052, being £4,686,839 more than the expenditure for the similar period of 1884. The balances on the 8th inst. amounted to £2,346,892, and on August 9, 1884, were £3,189,956.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach received a deputation from the Women's Suffrage Society, at Bristol on Monday, and replying to a memorial asking him to support the movement which they represented, the hon. baronet said they should remember that the question had always been considered strictly outside party limits, and in the late as well as the present Government there were colleagues who did not hold identical opinions upon it. He was afraid he could not say that his opinions agreed with those of the deputation, for he had always voted against women's suffrage. He did not mean to say that the question, to his mind, occupied quite the position it formerly did, and he thought there was force in the argument that, looking to the great extension of the suffrage, and that they had given to the more ignorant classes the franchise, the injustice of depriving educated and intelligent women of the vote had certainly been increased, and it was mainly owing to that reason that on the last occasion the question was brought forward he did not take any part in the debate or division upon it. Although he had no objection to include in the enfranchised classes those women who possessed the property and household qualifications, he doubted whether they could safely include, looking to the condition of certain classes in large towns, those who possessed the lodger qualification. Parliament had legislated of late so as to put man and woman on an equality as to matters of property—he meant as to husband and wife—and if the suffrage was once conceded to those to whom he had referred, they would have a further demand on the part of married women. He confessed he was not prepared to do anything which would give a man and wife two votes. It introduced politics, as it were, between them, and would enfranchise all the women of England.

Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P., addressing a crowded meeting of his constituents at Brymbo, near Wrexham, on Tuesday night, said the Conservatives just now were boasting that they had passed measures which the Liberals had had to drop, on the principle, he supposed, of the wren which mounted higher than the eagle by simple getting on the eagle's back. But it must be borne in mind that the Liberals when in opposition assisted legislation, whereas the Tories obstructed it. The one acted as a propelling force; the other as a spoke in the wheel. A Government which existed only on sufferance was apt to play with questions rather than grapple with them—to issue commissions of inquiry which ended in nothing, and to pass colourless measures which did good to nobody. Such a Government, too, was apt to degenerate into an organised hypocrisy and to clutch at the support of any party ready to sell itself to the highest bidder. England did not love coalitions, and a coalition between the Primrose and the Land Leagues would scarcely commend itself to English, Scotch, or Welsh constituencies. He had read with much amusement a letter in the *Times* last week from a Tory member, in whom assuredly there was no guile, who had been simple enough to write to Lord Salisbury and Mr. Parnell to ask them whether it was really true that they had ever signed a compact for the overthrow of the late Government. Possibly, if they subject Lord Randolph Churchill to that half-hour's heckling by the Orangemen of Liverpool from whom he had so ignominiously fled, it might throw a little more light on the situation. Meantime, he should prefer the evidence of his own senses on this question to a round robin signed by the whole Treasury bench. Was it by pure accident that in every critical division list during the present session the names of Beach and Biggar had figured side by side, while that of Sir Stafford Northcote had been sandwiched between those of Colonel Nolan and Mr. O'Brien? But compact or no compact, one thing was certain, that after the next election a Conservative Ministry could only hold office by the grace of Mr. Parnell, and every elector who put his cross to the name of a Tory candidate was unconsciously helping to bring about a state of things in which the leader of the Irish party would virtually be the arbitrator of the destinies of England.

Mr. Trevelyan yesterday week addressed a meeting held in the Victoria Rooms, Filey, in support of the candidature of Mr. O. James Cousins, of Allerton Park, Leeds, for the Buckrose Division of the East Riding of Yorkshire. He spoke of the change which the Reform Bill would effect in the representation of the country. He said enormous constituencies of 200,000, 300,000, and 500,000 were being brought into reasonable size and shape. The franchise had transferred political power from the few to the many. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that the "Constitutional" party would win at the next election. He (Mr. Trevelyan) was inclined to agree with him, but he would ask, Which was the "Constitutional" party? Was the Constitutional party that party whose doctrine it was that they should adopt changes because they were right, and educate public opinion to carry them? Or was it that party whose policy it was to oppose all change, and then when public opinion, whether "educated" or not, was in favour of change, was ready at a moment's notice to bring about the change, and claim the credit for it? If they wanted to see the difference between the two political parties, let them look at their conduct in regard to Ireland. For three years past Lord Spencer had governed Ireland with a desire to do justice all round, but with an absolute indifference to party advantage. Some had thought that he had neglected party advantage too much, but the crisis was a great one, and if he was too much of a patriot and too little of a party man it was a fault which Conservatives, at any rate, should have been quick to pardon. The reward which that great Englishman received at the hands of his successors had been that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary for India, and the Solicitor-General had vied with each other to throw him over in terms most insulting to him, and most gratifying to those who had abused and calumniated him. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Lord Randolph Churchill, and the Solicitor-General knew as well as anyone the history and circumstances of the Maamstrasna murders. They knew that Lord Spencer had been accused of hanging innocent men whom he knew to be innocent, and that it was said his pillow was to be haunted, that his name was to go down to the execration of posterity, and when they chose that occasion to throw over and repudiate him, they knew very well what they were doing, and they knew very well what they would get by it. They had got the Parnellite vote in the English and Scotch constituencies, and in the House of Commons they who had not the slightest chance of having a Conservative majority in the United Kingdom hoped to be able by enlisting the eighty Parnellities in their cause to govern the country through the duration of the next Parliament. He hoped that this solid and important part of the country disapproved of coalition between two parties diametrically opposed in every opinion which either of them held, and that it would prefer to help to send to Parliament a Liberal majority large enough to govern the country, and above all to govern it honourably and honestly. The coalition between the National League and the Primrose League was not a coalition which would be to the taste of the British people. They wanted a party which was either fish or fowl. The next election would be a great crisis. The awaking and uprising of the rural districts astonished him who had always advocated the extension of the county suffrage, and it had astonished those who had acted with him. They advocated it in faith because it was right, and they had the reward that faith always brought. The seed sown was bringing a plentiful harvest at once, but it was only an earnest of the future. When the country had once been set on the right path it would go forward on it to the end.

Lord Richard Grosvenor, in addressing a meeting of the Rhyl and District Liberal Association, dwelt upon the Liberal programme at the general election and the party prospects generally. They might depend upon it that at the general election the whole weight of the Irish vote would be thrown into the Conservative scale. Of the result of the election, however, he had no fear whatever. From reports which he had received from men of political judgment and experience he was firmly convinced that the general election would result in the return of a sound Liberal majority. There was a great desire expressed in some quarters that the Liberals should declare a policy. He did not think that there would be much advantage in that, and it must have struck them all that a new policy would be perfectly useless until the procedure of the House of Commons had been reformed. If, however, they must have a new policy, he would venture to place first a reform of the procedure of the House of Commons, then land reform, then the formation of county boards, and then measures affecting Ireland. There was still another question which had not received much public attention, but must soon become a leading question, namely, a reform of the registration laws. These were all matters of extreme importance, to which the attention of the country would have shortly to be called.

Mr. E. Stanhope, speaking at Alford, Lincolnshire, said the Government were fully conscious of the grave responsibility they had incurred in respect to Ireland. The jealousy of their political opponents made itself clear in the persistent misrepresentation of their speeches, motives, and acts in respect to that country. They were prepared for this, but what the Government had to do was to go steadily on with the task before them, feeling satisfied that public opinion would give all possible support to Lord Carnarvon in upholding law and order with firmness and with vigour.

Sir Henry Drummond Wolff left Charing-cross on Saturday morning by the eleven o'clock express for Brussels. He was accompanied by Mr. Cartwright, official secretary; Mr. Stuart-Wortley, military attaché; and Mr. Bruce, attaché. Sir Drummond Wolff arrived at 10.50, and Lord Randolph Churchill, who came to the station to see his colleague off, conversed with him up to the time of his departure. Only a few persons had assembled on the platform, and they raised a cheer as the train moved out of the station.

At a Conservative meeting which was held in the National School-room, Cuckney, Notts, last week, the Chairman read the following letter from the Duke of Portland:—"My dear Colonel Wellitt.—I am very sorry that I shall be unable to attend the meeting which you are organising for Thursday evening at Cuckney, more especially as I consider that the country is passing through a most important crisis, and if we Conservatives do not stand shoulder to shoulder, our country, which has so long been called 'merrie England,' will be given over to Radical misrule and to the chaos of Republicanism. The errors of the late Government are too flagrant to need much pointing out, and I can only hope that a Conservative Parliament may be elected next November, which will have the honour of old England at heart, and do its very best to unite our Colonies to the mother country, and further the prosperity of the land which we love so well.—Believe me, yours very truly, Portland."

An address has been issued to the London trades by the Industrial Representation League, which has been lately formed after several meetings of the London Trades Council, for the purpose of returning to Parliament properly qualified representative workmen. It is stated in the address that, "if new social and political principles are to form the future basis of our national life, and emancipate labour from the thraldom of capitalists, such work can only be done by men earnestly imbued with the sentiments of those principles, and honestly determined to carry them into effect. It is pointed out that, with a compact and independent labour party in Parliament, they could insist on all Government work being done at a fair price, that the hours of labour should be limited, that millions of money spent in unjust ways should be utilised in home improvements, and that the slums of the cities and towns of the country would be removed."

The following letter has been received by Mr. G. W. Osborn, the president of the Borough of Chelsea Liberal Association:—"76, *Sloane-street, Aug.* 7.—My dear Osborn,—I yesterday received formal notice of the commencement of legal proceedings in reference to a matter seriously affecting my private character, the nature of which I have already communicated to you. The charge brought against me is untrue, and I look forward with confidence to the result of the judicial inquiry which must now take place. In the meantime I am precluded from making any detailed reply, but I am convinced that neither my friends nor my opponents will do me the injustice of condemning me unheard. I have to request that you will take steps to convene a meeting of the Council of the Liberal Association of this borough in order that these circumstances may be submitted for their consideration. If the Council should be of opinion that the interests of the party will suffer at the general election by being confided to one who rests, however undeservedly, under so grave an imputation, I shall be prepared to place myself entirely in their hands, and to retire from all public life until this accusation shall have been disproved. It is with deep regret that I make this communication, and contemplate the severance, even for a time, of relations which have existed so long between the constituency of Chelsea and myself. I wish to add the expression of my gratitude for the kindness and generous confidence I have received since 1867 from my supporters and for the forbearance and courtesy extended to me by my political opponents.—Faithfully yours, Charles W. Dilke." The case referred to in Sir Charles Dilke's letter stands at the bottom of the Divorce Court list. It cannot at the earliest be tried before December, and more probably it will not come off till January or February next year.

Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., addressed a meeting held on Saturday evening at St. Neots, in his capacity as candidate for South-East Cornwall. Mr. Courtney said he should never be satisfied until female householders had the vote. We had heard a good deal about women lately, and rightly so, but the wrongs of women were still numerous, and they would never be properly redressed until women were able to take part in the election of members of Parliament. The Liberal party had a strong case for appealing to the new constituencies on the ground that they had given them the franchise. But Liberals relied on something more than the past. They appealed to what they intended to do in the future. Having given the people political and religious freedom, they intended to preserve for them freedom of trade. Lord Iddesleigh found great difficulty in forming his commission on trade depression, and he was afraid it would be a one-sided affair, for nearly all the Liberals whom he had invited to serve had refused because they declined to give the slightest support to the idea that the policy of Free-trade was at all doubtful. One of the first acts of a new Liberal Government—for he felt assured that Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues would return to power at the general election—would be to pass a measure of county government reform. The Land Laws must also be dealt with, not only by abolishing primogeniture and limiting the right of settlement, but by freeing the cultivator of land from all improper restrictions, and giving him the right to claim the fullest compensation for his improvements. The country and the Church would do well to prepare for disestablishment. The time was not ripe for it at present, but it must come, and might come sooner than many expected. The Irish difficulty must be settled upon the lines of freedom and self-government.

The Marquis of Salisbury having received an address from the Kirkdale Branch of the Liverpool Conservative Working Men's Association, his secretary writes:—"His Lordship begs to thank those who passed that address most sincerely, and trusts that when the general election is over it may be found that the efforts of the Conservative Government to restore peace to this country, and a most healthy condition to its trade, may not prove unsuccessful. Should the result of these endeavours be favourable, his Lordship thinks the country will be grateful, and show its gratitude by returning a Conservative majority to serve the people in the new Parliament."

The Duke of Beaufort, addressing a great Conservative gathering at Wootton-under-Edge, on Saturday, said that the two millions of labourers would be very much puzzled with their votes, and must be taught the object of their being entrusted with the franchise, and to study the different parties. Mr. Chamberlain told them the land must be divided, but his Grace thought that anyone with common sense would understand that if a labourer had a piece of land and was not able to cultivate it, it would not be much use to him. He might get crops two or three seasons in succession, but not having means to secure the necessary manures, he would be glad to sell it. If the land was divided, there was no doubt that it would be gathered together in large portions in ten years. Then again they must remember that to give them three or four acres they would have to take them away from the present owners.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL IN DORSETSHIRE.

Lord Randolph Churchill was present at a demonstration of the Conservatives of East Dorsetshire, which was held on Wednesday in the grounds of Canford Manor, Wimborne. In his speech on the occasion he said he was sorry to say that from certain Conservative quarters he had been accused of having disgraced the character and betrayed the interests of the great Tory party. Fortunately for him the English people did not accept these accusations readily. He went on to say:—

"The most remarkable feature of the political contest of the present day is the extraordinary licence of accusation which the Radical party permit themselves in speaking of their opponents, and the very narrow limits of criticism within which they desire to confine their opponents when they are speaking of them. I will give you an instance and illustration of that. I have been accused of making within recent times what the Radicals term a brutal attack upon the conduct of Lord Spencer when Viceroy of Ireland, and I have been accused of making a ferocious and savage attack upon Lord Ripon, the late Viceroy of India. But what are the facts of the case? What were the words I used with reference to the late Viceroy of Ireland? What I said was that, from my own knowledge of Ireland, and from having watched with the utmost attention the history of the country in recent years, I had no confidence in the methods of administration that were resorted to by Lord Spencer; and I said, further, that I should be sorry to see the Tory party going out of their way to assume responsibility for these methods, and that I should be sorry to see them unnecessarily identifying themselves with the peculiar legislation which Lord Spencer thought necessary for the government of Ireland. That may have been right or it may have been wrong; but it is not very unnatural that a member of the Tory party should express his total want of confidence in a member of the Whig party. But whether I was right or whether I was wrong, I submit that what I said was a fair, a reasonable, and a moderate commentary with regard to a difference of political opinion, and I think that it is in no way liable to the epithet of being a brutal attack. Again, I pointed out that Lord Ripon, during his viceroyalty of India, had squandered the financial resources of that country, and by his procrastination and short-sighted policy had invited the Russians to take possession of the territory of Afghanistan, and that by that policy a very heavy and grievous burden had been placed upon the people of India; and again I said that for that policy the Tory Government repudiated all responsibility. There, again, I may have been right, or I may have been wrong. I should like to point out that although Lord Hartington, after I had spoken, pledged Lord Ripon to make a reply in the House of Lords to my statement, Lord Ripon has not ventured to put in an appearance, and he has not given a sign of life. I imagine, therefore, that on this subject Lord Ripon thinks that the least said the soonest mended. However, whether my remarks were right or wrong, I submit that they were neither ferocious nor savage, and that it is ridiculous to say that they were. It was a fair and moderate and reasonable expression of serious difference of opinion."

Lord Randolph Churchill proceeded to examine the accusations which the Radicals brought against their opponents—he would say nothing about the yelping, the piping, and the screaming of the small fry of the Liberal party, like Mr. Herbert Gladstone. They were utterly beneath contempt. He had heard from many quarters that the emissaries of the Radical party were spreading it all over England that the

Tory Government wished to put a tax on the food of the people. All he could say was this, that there was not a member of the present Government who would not recoil with the utmost horror from any policy that would raise the price of the necessaries of life to the people of this country. Those who brought this accusation were the very party who were turned out of office because they attempted to tax the food of the people. Why, they defeated the late Government in their attempt to place a heavy tax on beer, and he held that that great national drink was just as much the food of the people as bread. Again, the Radical party were going about calling upon the rural population to support their principles because they said they passed the Reform Bill :—

"I deny and utterly repudiate the claim of the Radical party to the confidence of the rural population because they passed the Reform Bill. They never passed the Reform Bill. They could have passed the Reform Bill if they liked some five or six years ago. Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Trevelyan, and Mr. Forster, who now declare that for many years their tender hearts have been torn with anxiety on behalf of the rural population, joined the Government in 1880. The Government at that time possessed control over the House of Commons. Why did they not enfranchise the rural population in 1880? Obstruction had not then commenced. It was only when the Radical party and the late Government neglected their duty that obstruction began. It was then that the active opposition sprung up. But if Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Trevelyan, or Mr. Forster had really believed in their principles, if they had really been sincere in their anxiety for the rural population, and for the enfranchisement of a greater number, do you not think they would at once have insisted upon a measure for the further enfranchisement, no matter what the consequences might have been? But that was not at all their line. What they said was this. We have managed to upset and overthrow the detested Government of Lord Beaconsfield. We have managed to secure for ourselves comfortable places and the exercise of great power for a period of six years at least. The agricultural labourer has waited some time, and he can very well wait until we want him."

Even when the late Government did resolve to proceed with reform they were all at sea, "and at sea they would have remained if it had not been that Lord Salisbury and the Tory party, who saw their little game, and who were not the least afraid of it, came to the rescue, showed them how to play their own game, and lifted the lame Radical dog gently over the style of Redistribution." The Government, Lord Randolph Churchill went on to say, were pursuing a great policy :—

"It is a policy upon which we shall go to the country. It is a policy which has for its object the strengthening of the Empire at home and abroad. It is a policy by which we hope to give peace once more to Ireland. It is a policy by which we hope to restore security to India. It is a policy by which we mean to create an efficient and overpowering Navy, adequate to the defence of our commerce, of our coasts, and our colonies. It is a policy by which we hope to revive trade and industry. It is a policy in which we hope to secure economy by a thorough reform of all the Administrative departments, and by restoring to the House of Commons control over the national finances which under the Liberal Administration they have altogether lost. It is quite true we Tories cannot promise to every county householder, we cannot promise to every agricultural labourer, three acres of land free, as Mr. Jesse Collings is prepared to do. But we promise you this—that every man in England who, by his industry, by his thrift, and by his perseverance shall have acquired for himself the possession of three or more acres of land, that man shall remain in possession of that land, that no one shall interfere with him, that he shall enjoy that land as he will, and he shall dispose of it as he pleases. We promise you nothing but what we know we can perform. The Tory Government promises you efficient administration, which is what you have been without for five years. We promise you good government. We promise a frugal finance, because we know that efficient administration and good government mean good times, and that frugal finance means an absence of harassing and over-burdensome taxation. And we know that easy times and easy taxation mean brisk employment and good wages."

He thought this was a policy which compared very favourably and contrasted very agreeably with either Lord Rosebery's "old umbrella" or Mr. Chamberlain's general redistribution, and he could not help thinking that the English people, with the common sense which had always distinguished them, would prefer the substance of Tory reality to the illusions of Radical promises.

SIR M. HICKS-BEACH ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach, addressing a large meeting of his friends and constituents at Bristol on Saturday night, said, after a round of hearty cheering at his rising, that such a welcome as they had given him might well invigorate and strengthen any man who was engaged in the difficult and arduous task of conducting the Government of this great country. He was glad to think that he was not a stranger among them. But if they wished to strengthen their acquaintance he regarded his reception as a good omen for the future, and he would venture to say that they would support the great Conservative cause at the next election with a vigorous determination to succeed, which was the certain omen of political prosperity. He did not wish on that occasion to make a complete statement of his political opinions, but he would say a few words on the present political situation. It was, he said, one of a very remarkable character. The Government of which he had the honour to be a member was in office, but was supposed not to command the support of the majority of the House of Commons. He was not quite sure that any Government which could be formed would be in a much better position. But what was their position, and how had they got there? They had been compelled to take office because their predecessors left it. And why had they left it? [A Voice: "Because they could not carry it on."] That gentleman had put the whole situation in a single phrase, because a Government which five years ago went into office with brilliant hopes and great expectations had falsified all those hopes and expectations, and had committed political suicide. It was all very well to say that the late Government resigned because they were defeated through his (Sir Michael's) agency on certain unpopular provisions in their Budget, but if that were true how had it come to pass that without opposition, without even a protest, they had accepted and passed that Budget, minus the unpopular provisions which he cut out of it. No, the late Government were obliged to resign because they, being the leaders of a confederacy of factions, could no longer keep their factions together—because, having for five years contrived to retain office by the sacrifice of each other's opinions, by smothering their own ideas in order to promote a concert among themselves, they succeeded for a time in carrying on what that hero Gordon well described as "a policy of a log floating down stream." But when they came to a point when decision and action had to be taken in important matters of State, they could not agree among themselves. That was why the late Government vacated office. They vacated it with a shriek of triumph and relief. They thought they had handed over to their successors difficulties which to themselves were insuperable, and in which they (the Conservatives) must necessarily fail. He was not quite sure that even so far they had not, to a great extent, been disappointed. How was it that the triumph with which the Liberals left office had now changed to evident ill-humour? Why was it that they could go about the country and accuse the Conservatives of adopting their policy of allying themselves with Mr. Parnell and his friends? He would tell them. Because they were absolutely incapable either of accounting for their opponents' successes or of agreeing on any policy among themselves, and while they repeated this statement they knew well at the same time that there was not a word of truth in it. He would take them firstly to the remarkable charge that they, the Conservatives, had adopted in foreign affairs the policy of their predecessors. In one sense that statement was true. They had inherited a tangled skein which they had had to unravel as best they could for the interests of the country. They could not put back the state of affairs. He wished they could, and to what it was under Lord Beaconsfield. They could not undo the harm that had been done by the factious folly of the past five years in ruining Egypt and endangering India; they could not give life to the hundreds of gallant Englishmen and thousands of Arabs who had lost their lives, thanks to the purposeless and useless bloodshed of their predecessors; they could not put back into the Exchequer the millions that had been wasted in the Soudan. No, they could not do that, but they could do their best with the facts in their hands. There was no greater mistake that could be made on the part of any Government in dealing with the foreign affairs of the country than to suppose that for a moment they would do good by an immediate reversal of the policy of their predecessors. The Conservatives had, as he had seen it very well observed, played on the same fiddle as the Liberals, but they were not going to play, and had not played, the same tune. They had done something already. They had promoted a more friendly feeling towards this country on the part of the great European Powers than ever existed during the Administration of Mr. Gladstone, and yet Mr. Gladstone when he came into office said that he was going to do everything by the concert of Europe, but it was a concert of Europe against his own country. The Conservatives had by their policy secured the friendly assistance of some, at any rate, of the most important European Powers in their foreign policy, and as the first result of that they had been able to take the first step towards setting in order the finances of Egypt. If the finances of Egypt were set in order, other improvements in that country would necessarily follow. The financial question was now the key of the whole situation of Egypt, and the Conservatives were determined—and they spoke out plainly, though their predecessors could never say it—to recognise their obligations to the Egyptian people, and not to leave Egypt until they had seen their obligations fulfilled. There were other even more important matters in foreign politics with which they had to deal, but in all of them they looked to promote that accord with European Powers without which this country, he would venture to say, was in a very dangerous position. They believed that in so doing they would best promote harmony among the people of the world, which was the surest guarantee of prosperity. The Conservative idea of foreign policy was shortly this, they believed they should not act as the Liberals had acted, from hand to mouth, in a manner which altered from day to day. Government dragged them into purposeless and useless war. During the past five years the country had been disgusted with the want of policy on the part of the late Government. The Conservatives were not going to drag the country into war. They knew their duty too well for that; but they were going firmly, quietly, and patiently to stand up for the rights of England all over the world.

SIR CHARLES DILKE.

For the last fortnight those who receive and retail the choice gossip of the day have been exchanging with each other accounts of proceedings for divorce which it was declared were about to be taken against Sir Charles Dilke in respect to Mrs. Donald Crawford, the sister of his late brother's wife, and therefore a relation of his own. As in all cases of this kind, an army of details—probably all false—soon came up to support the original rumour. There were, it was said, not one but two ladies in the case; and it was on the meeting of these two that Mrs. Crawford had become shocked, had fallen into hysterics, had been attended by a doctor, had been taken home, and had made a confession to her husband. Following this came a rumour that the affair had been amicably arranged, that Lord Granville and Mr. Chamberlain had busied themselves in the matter, and that nothing more would be heard of it.

Meantime, what became quite clear was that something had occurred which had very seriously affected Sir Charles Dilke. He withdrew from all his engagements, he was absent from his place in Parliament, and it was announced that he had abandoned his projected Irish tour with Mr. Chamberlain. The reason assigned for this sudden self-effacement was ill-health arising from overwork, a reason which, in the absence of anything beyond mere gossip, the public (most of whom indeed then knew nothing of the gossip itself) were bound, as we ourselves pointed out a fortnight ago, to accept, and which they no doubt did accept. But matters have now wholly changed. The rumours have taken a definite shape. On Saturday last it was announced that Mr. Crawford had actually filed a petition in the Divorce Court against Sir Charles; and on Monday a letter was published in all the daily papers from Sir Charles himself, in which he said, "The charge brought against me is untrue, and I look forward with confidence to the result of the judicial inquiry which must now take place." At the same time he put the situation before the Council of the Liberal Association for the borough of Chelsea, for which he sits in Parliament, and added, "If the Council should be of opinion that the interests of the party will suffer at the General Election by being confided to me, who rest, however unreservedly, under so grave an imputation, I shall be prepared to place myself entirely in their hands, and to retire from all public life until this accusation shall have been disproved." This is a very feeble and inconsistent way of dealing with such a matter. Either Sir Charles is innocent of the charge, or he is guilty. He declares in effect that he is innocent; but in that case it seems at once very imprudent, and wholly unnecessary, for him to offer to "retire from all public life" at the bidding of a caucus. On the contrary, both prudence and courage and the righteous indignation a man feels at being made the victim of a false charge would have dictated that he should have held his head high and stood his ground without budging an inch. Sir Charles makes a very just appeal against being "condemned unheard;" and yet in the same letter he offers to submit unheard to a sentence of political banishment which would be the greatest condemnation that could be affixed to, and the greatest penalty that could be inflicted on, him. Moreover, it is to be remembered that if this appeal against condemnation unheard is fair and just in the case of Sir Charles, against whom the charge is made, it is equally fair and just in the case of Mr. Donald Crawford, who makes it. If it be shown that the charges are true, then Sir Charles must be condemned upon them; but if it be shown that they are false, then Mr. Crawford must be condemned for making them; and the only course open to any man of just and honourable mind is to refuse at present to condemn either one of the two.

We dismiss, therefore, wholly any consideration of the truth or untruth of these charges; but what is worthy of attention is the general question of how far charges against the private conduct of a public man should be allowed to weigh in dealing with his public career. It is far too often assumed that the two should be kept entirely separate; that the public man is one entity, and the private man another; and that the one ought to be considered and dealt with wholly apart from the other. Nothing can be more false or more absurd. A man is not two beings; he is one; and if it be proved that he is false, dishonest, cowardly, disloyal, and base in his private capacity, it would be nonsensical to suppose that he could be true, honest, brave, loyal, and noble in his public capacity. All that part, therefore, of a man's private doings which comes to public knowledge fairly may be, and most properly should be, taken into account, so far as it discloses the real character of the man himself, and consequently his fitness or unfitness for the public service. He who is clearly shown to have betrayed private trust may reasonably be held likely to betray also a public trust; he who is clearly shown to be corrupt in private matters will probably also be corrupt in public matters; and if it be that such proof of private misdeeds comes before the public as warrants an evil opinion of the character of a public man, it is not wrong and unnecessary, but eminently right and necessary, that the knowledge thus acquired should be brought to bear upon the claim of that man to public confidence. But if, on the other hand, the facts established only go to show that the man in question is moved by ordinary venial human weaknesses, or has been guilty of ordinary venial indiscretions, then it would be eminently unfair to visit upon him a public penalty for private faults of such a character. The whole question turns upon the character of the acts established. If they be such as affect his character for honesty, honour, and trustworthiness, they are necessary elements in estimating his fitness for public affairs; if they merely affect his discretion or his strength of mind, they are rather to be generously disregarded. A bank manager would be wrong in refusing to take into account proofs that one of his cashiers had cheated a friend; he would be right in refusing to take into account proofs that he had eaten himself into an attack of jaundice.

Thus it may well be that a case of the kind alleged against Sir Charles Dilke may prove to be of such a character as may, upon a right judgment, be regarded as irrelevant to his public position, and unnecessary to be taken into account; or, on the other hand, it may prove highly relevant to it, and very necessary to be taken into account. It all depends upon the complexion of the case, and the degree to which it is established, if at all. It is right to bear these considerations in mind, and especially to bear them in mind now, because the matter is now *sub judice*, and because in all probability it cannot possibly be brought to a decision until after the general election takes place. Sir Charles is therefore entitled to the benefit of the doubt that hangs over every undecided case, and of his own denial of the charge.—*Vanity Fair.*

THE FIGHTING IN NORTH-WEST CANADA.

Copies of the despatches of Major-General Middleton reporting his operations at Fish Creek and Batoche have been published. It must be remembered that at the first-named place he was able to bring into action only some 350 men, while the enemy were about 300, and well sheltered in carefully constructed rifle pits. The half-breeds, moreover, were for the most part excellent marksmen, and many of them well known for their fighting capabilities, while General Middleton's troops consisted of men who, though trained to the use of arms, had never been previously in face of the enemy. General Middleton says :—

"On approaching some bluffs just as the left advanced scouts were circling round, we suddenly received a heavy fire from a bluff and some ground sloping back on our left, which fire was luckily too high to do mischief, having been evidently fired in a hurry owing to the approach of the left scouts. Major Boulton instantly ordered his men to dismount, let loose their horses (two of which were immediately shot), and hold the enemy in check. This was done by them most gallantly—the flankers and files in front falling back on the main body. I sent Captain Wise back with orders to bring up the advanced guard and main body, which was soon done, though in going with the order Captain Wise's horse was hit by a shot from the bluffs on the left. The advanced guard, on arrival, extended and took cover in the bluffs nearest us, and as the main body came up two more companies of the 90th were extended, the rebels advancing up out of the ravine, into which, however, they again speedily retired and a heavy fire was exchanged, but having sent a party round to a house on the enemy's right the enemy gradually retired along the ravine, while our men advanced slowly to the crest of a deeply wooded part running out of the main ravine. In this former ravine a small party of the rebels made a stand in what we found afterwards to be some carefully constructed rifle pits. These men were evidently their best shots—Gabriel Dumont being amongst them, but were, so to speak, caught in a trap. A great number of their horses and ponies being in this ravine, and what is said to be very unusual, were tied up, thus showing, I am informed, that the rebels were pretty confident of success; fifty-five of these horses were killed. These men were gradually reduced in number until, from the position of our men, it was almost impossible for them to retire, and they continued to fire at intervals, doing a good deal of mischief."

Gallant attempts were made to dislodge these men, but at length the general resolved to leave them, extending his men to watch them, and sending shells at them from time to time. On the right the enemy set fire to the prairie, but General Middleton managed to beat the fire out. He brought a small reinforcement across the river, notwithstanding serious difficulties.

"Wooded heights on each side 100ft. high—at bottom large boulders encrusted in thick, sticky mud—a fringe of huge blocks of ice on each side, a wretched scow, carrying about sixty men at most, pulled with oars made with an axe, and a rapid current of about three or four miles an hour, were the obstacles that were surmounted by dint of determination and anxiety to join with and aid their comrades."

At the close of the day a zereba was formed, and the camp was pitched close to the scene of the fight. General Middleton says :—

"I append an official list of killed and wounded, which I regret is so large, but which is not larger than might be expected considering the circumstances under which we were attacked, and the fact that not a man in the force but myself had ever before been under fire."

After mentioning several officers by name, he says :

"My thanks are also due to Brigade Surgeon Orton, 90th Battalion, for the excellent arrangement made by him for attending to the wounded, and removing them to our new camp. The men employed as ambulance men also performed their duty well, not hesitating to bring away the wounded under fire. I cannot conclude without mentioning a little bugler of the 90th Regiment, named William Buchanan, who made himself particularly useful in carrying ammunition to the right front when the fire was very hot; this he did with peculiar nonchalance, walking calmly about crying 'Now, boys, who's for cartridges?'"

Detailed reports very similar in character are also given of the action at Cut-knife-hill, and the subsequent capture of Batoche.

Dr. Elkin, in charge of the heliometer of the Yale College observatory, has, *Science* says, been engaged for nearly a year and a half past in measuring the group of the Pleiades, his original plan being to measure with this instrument the same stars which Bessel measured with the Konigsberg heliometer about fifty years ago. Dr. Elkin has taken advantage of all the improvements in the instrument and the methods of using it which have been developed in the last half-century; and, in addition to the successful carrying out of his carefully elaborated plan of triangulation, he has also been able to extend his work to a large number of stars which Bessel did not measure. The position-angle and distance of the Bessel stars from the large star Alcyone are included in the work. The results of this very valuable work cannot be fully discussed and prepared for publication until the positions of certain stars of reference have been obtained from the work of other observatories where they are now being determined. Dr. Elkin has also obtained measures of the distances of a number of craters on the moon from neighbouring stars on thirty-six nights, near the times of the first and last quarter. The positions of these craters on the moon itself had been determined; also series of measures made of the diameters of Venus, of the outer ring of Saturn, and of the satellite Titan referred to its primary. A registering micrometer has been devised, and, in the form constructed by the Repsolds, has proved a complete success, greatly increasing the amount of work which the observer can accomplish. Dr. Elkin proposes to devote the heliometer for a year and a half to come to investigations in stellar parallax.

In addition to the lists already published, the following presents were given to Princess Beatrice on her marriage :—Diamond brooch with horseshoe and whip, from the Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales; sapphire and diamond hairpins, given by Princess Beatrice's ten Royal bridesmaids; pearl marquise ring, given by Prince and Princess William of Prussia; silver bowl, from the household of Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein; and a worked tablecloth, given by Mrs. Henderson.

"laden with the scent of flowers,
And breath of odorous spring."

Spinner's Tea.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest teas that come from India and China in packets only. Prices 1s. 8d., 2s., 2s. 4d., and 2s. 8d. a pound. These are the perfection of teas, and will please the most fastidious.—Agents wanted in every town and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London.—Spinner & Co., London and Liverpool.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1884.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

PREMIUMS AFTER DEDUCTING RE-ASSURANCES	£988,156 9 2
LOSSES	£676,463 11 6

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

PREMIUMS AFTER DEDUCTING RE-ASSURANCES	£250,163 5 5

Declaration of Bonus for the Quinquennium ending 31st December, 1884, **£1 10s. per Cent. per Annum on Sum Assured,**
UPON ALL POLICIES ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE.

As at the previous investigations of 1870, 1875, and 1880, to secure perfect accuracy in the calculations, a Valuation of the Liabilities has been obtained from an independent Actuary, in addition to the ordinary valuation by the Officers of the Company; and Mr. James Meikle, F.F.A., F.I.A., President of the Actuarial Society of Edinburgh, the Consulting Actuary, reports that

THE LIFE SURPLUS REALISED IN THE FIVE YEARS WAS £354,513.

The Valuation was made by the Tables of the Institute of Actuaries (HM.), at 3 per cent. interest.

FUNDS.

After providing for payment of the Dividend the Funds of the Company will stand as follows:—

CAPITAL PAID-UP		£280,545 0 0
FIRE FUND	£550,000 0 0	
CONFLAGRATION FUND	200,000 0 0	
		750,000 0 0
RESERVE FUND		1,100,000 0 0
BALANCE OF PROFIT AND LOSS		150,095 6 8
LIFE FUNDS		3,058,767 2 6
		£5,348,407 0 2

EXTRACT FROM AUDITORS' REPORT.

"I have examined and counted every Security, and have found all correct and in perfect order, and that the present aggregate market value thereof is in excess of the amounts in the said Balance Sheets."

JOHN H. McLAREN, Manager. DIGBY JOHNSON, Sub-Manager. JOHN H. CROFT, Secretary in London.

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PATRONISED BY
HER MAJESTY,
H.R.H., THE PRINCE OF WALES,
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THE GREAT REMEDY FOR GOUT and RHEUMATISM.

The excruciating pain is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by this celebrated Medicine.

These Pills require no restraint of diet during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Chemists at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Go where you may, in every country and in all climes, persons will be found who have a ready word of praise for this Ointment. For chaps, chafes, scalds, bruises, and sprains it is an invaluable remedy; for bad legs, bad breasts, and piles it may be confidently relied upon for effecting a sound and permanent cure. In cases of puffed ancles, erysipelas, and rheumatism Holloway's Ointment gives the greatest comfort by reducing the inflammation, cooling the blood, soothing the nerves, adjusting the circulation, and expelling the impurities. This Ointment should have a place in every nursery. It will cure all those manifold skin affections which, originating in childhood, gain strength with the child's growth.

EDE AND SON,

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, August 15.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The Parliament of 1880 has passed away, and its record of shame and scandal is at length closed. If the admirable precept *De mortuis nil nisi bonum* is to be observed, it must be allowed to expire in contemptuous silence. It is difficult to look back upon the history of the first five years and perceive anything that the House of Commons has done or left undone which can be regarded with satisfaction, except the tardy condition of repentance manifested in its withdrawal of confidence from Mr. GLADSTONE'S Administration. The Session that has just come to an end has possibly been less positively mischievous than those that have preceded it. It will be rendered memorable by the passage of the Redistribution Bill, which completes the political revolution commenced by the extension of Household Suffrage to the counties. The placid optimism with which this momentous transfer of political power from property and intelligence to poverty and ignorance has been accomplished, will, it is to be hoped, be justified by events. For our own part, we believe in government by the best, and not by the worst, and are unable to think that this country will prove an exception to the experience of ochlocratic rule that the past and the present alike afford. The QUEEN'S Speech with which Parliament is dismissed is unavoidably more than usually colourless in its character. The expression of the resolution to discharge the national duties and responsibilities in Egypt is the most significant of its statements. The allusions to the Afghan question and to affairs in South Africa have little significance. The comments on the legislation of the Session are of a purely formal kind. It is only just to recognise the spirit of fairness in which the Radical leaders and the Radical party have acted towards the new Ministry since its accession to office. It was, of course, impossible to resist the temptations that the question of medical relief offered when Mr.

Arthur Balfour took up Mr. Jesse Collings's measure. But the Government has met with fair play, and has been thus enabled to wind up the work of the Session in a sufficiently satisfactory fashion.

The Government has succeeded in passing into law the chief measures of which it took charge on acceding to office. The Bill for giving to Scotland a Minister especially entrusted with the supervision of Scotch affairs has received the Royal Assent, and it is already announced that the Duke of Richmond and Gordon will be the first Secretary for Scotland. The measure is a harmless gratification of Scotch prejudices that none will object to, though few will quite approve. Wales will possibly in its turn demand a representative of its own in the Cabinet. It seems essential at the present time that the Cabinet should represent Imperial interests rather than concern itself with parochial affairs. The Criminal Law Amendment Bill has also been passed. It is doubtful whether it will effect much good, and it is certain that the scandalous and obscene agitation that it has occasioned has caused immeasurable evil. The anxiety to make men and women moral by Act of Parliament will always exist, despite the evidences of the past as to its practical impossibility. Real moral reform cannot be brought about by a system of legal pains and penalties. The measure for improving the housing of the working classes has been passed after the distinct improvement of some of its very questionable provisions. The clause making the owners of unfurnished houses liable to damage caused to the inmates by reason of sanitary defects has now been restricted to tenants below a certain annual value, and the liberty to escape from the liability by contract is maintained. The provision for the sale of prison sites below their value for the purpose of erecting working-class dwellings was naturally enough fiercely contested. It was absolutely indefensible in principle, and in the end the Government abandoned the attempt to maintain it.

Honor a Nilo. The old device has won in these recent years a new significance. The vote of thanks accorded by Parliament to the Navy and Army for their services in Egypt and the Soudan is a fit recognition of the courage, the devotion, and the endurance displayed by the forces of Her Majesty in the arduous campaigns of the past two years. Although, unhappily, the task that it was desired to accomplish remained unachieved; although the rescue of General Gordon, the relief of Khartoum and the beleaguered Egyptian garrisons, and the overthrow of the Mahdi were not effected, the untoward issue was, it is notorious, solely due to the incapacity and feebleness of the Government that directed the military operations, and throughout the unfortunate campaigns of 1884 and 1885 the soldiers and sailors of Her Majesty's Empire fully maintained the glorious traditions of the past. The desperate encounters with the levies of Osman Digma, in which the calm courage and steady discipline of the troops engaged alone availed to overcome the fierce onslaughts of an enemy careless of life and confident with the superiority of numbers; the brilliant raid across the Bayuda desert under the command of Sir Herbert Stewart, when the hosts of the Arab tribesmen were scattered and the Nile at last reached; the ascent of the Nile to Khartoum, only to find that succour came too late; the hazardous return down the river of Sir Charles Wilson's steamer, and the gallant exploits of Lord Charles Beresford, all add so many chapters to the romance of warfare that the English people will not readily forget. The speech of Lord Salisbury did eloquent justice to the achievements of soldiers and sailors alike. And in the Lower House Lord Hartington with much force and feeling gave expression to the national recognition of services rendered to the nation. In one respect the recent campaign must always remain memorable. For the first time a contingent from one of the great English Colonies took its place side by side with the soldiers of the mother country, and displayed in this practical fashion that whenever the Imperial interests are at stake all the forces of the Empire may be relied upon for their defence.

The electoral struggle in France has already commenced, and all evidences combine to show that the elections in October will be fiercely contested. The introduction of *scrutin de liste* in this instance increases the uncertainty that always attends an appeal to the decisions of universal suffrage. The fight will be waged as much between the diverse sections of the Republican party as between Republicans and Reactionaries, as Monarchists and Bonapartists are styled by their opponents. The chief issue apparently is whether M. Clemenceau shall be the next Prime Minister of France, or whether the more moderate Republicans under M. Brisson or M. Jules Ferry shall obtain a sufficient majority to enable them to retain possession of the Government. It appears to be generally recognised that the Monarchists have little hope of greatly increasing their Parliamentary strength. But the surprises of the ballot are inscrutable, and it is quite possible that the evidences of the failure of the Republic to wisely administer the affairs of France, the unpopularity of the Colonial enterprises, and the alarm occasioned by the condition of French finance, may lead to wholesale desertions from the Republican ranks. Both M. Jules Ferry and M. Clemenceau are taking an active part in the electoral conflict. The Monarchical tactics appear to be those of reticence and reserve. The advantages of a policy of patience are obvious, though a policy of aggression would be more likely to achieve speedy success.

THE END OF THE SESSION.

The Government are to be congratulated, at the close of the Session, upon having succeeded in working through the whole of the programme which they set before themselves on coming into office. Their Budget proposals have been accepted; they have obtained without difficulty, and indeed with almost unprecedented facility, the supplies for which they asked; they have passed the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, the Irish Land Purchase Bill, the Irish Labourers Bill, and the measure concerning Housing of the Poor; and they have appointed a Royal Commission to inquire into the condition of trade. On each of the measures above mentioned we have already expressed our opinions. If we are not able wholly to approve all the provisions of all these Bills, we can at least admit the industry and vigour of the Conservative Government in carrying through, during so short a period, a series of measures which the country will recognise as honestly designed to promote the welfare of the people, and which, in spite of their shortcomings, may be regarded as dealing in what is at least a fairly satisfactory manner with some of the most pressing necessities of the day. Upon certain other points of Ministerial policy we have been compelled to express a decidedly unfavourable judgment. Their Irish policy, to which we make further reference in another article, as well as their advocacy of the Medical Relief Disqualification Removal Bill, have met with an amount of hostile criticism at the hands of their best friends that will, we trust, prove a warning for the future. Apart from the extremely unfavourable impression created in the country by these escapades—an impression much more widespread than some persons seem to imagine—the Tory Ministry has good reason to feel confidence in the result of the great political struggle about to take place. The great Radical party has gone to pieces. As Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said at Bristol, the late Government were merely the leaders of "a confederacy of factions." For five years they retained office by sacrificing each other's opinions and smothering their own, and their policy in consequence was—to borrow poor Gordon's phrase—"that of a log "floating down the stream." Meanwhile their hated rivals, whom they rejoiced to see inheriting the difficulties which Radical incapacity had created, are—in spite of some blunders—already proving to the country the advantage of having a Conservative Administration in power. After all their sneers at the "stop-gap" Government, and their confident anticipations of their own return to office after the General Election, the Radicals are beginning to perceive that their chances of success are visibly diminishing, and the prospects of the Tories are evidently improving.

As we need not again point out, the surprising improvement that has taken place in our foreign relations under Lord Salisbury's auspices cannot fail to impress the popular mind, upon which it comes as a welcome relief after the dishonour and disgrace of the last five years. The policy declared by the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be recognised as embodying the true spirit in which our foreign affairs ought to be conducted:—"Our "idea of foreign policy," said Sir Michael Beach, "is shortly this: we believe that we "should not act as if living from hand to "mouth—in a manner which practically "alters from day to day. We do not think "that any good will come of postponing deci-"sions and delaying actions until too late." It is Radical vacillation and inconsistency that have involved us in all the war and bloodshed of the past few years. The policy of "quietly "standing up for our rights in all parts of the "world," and of "making up our minds what "the interests of this country require, and firmly "and quietly endeavouring to carry that policy "out, with due regard to the interests and "feelings of foreign nations," is the course which will secure the respect and confidence of others, and which we cordially agree with Sir Michael Beach in thinking will commend itself to the people of Great Britain. We recall with special satisfaction the Chancellor of the Exchequer's emphatic re-statement that the Government are "determined to "recognise their obligations to the Egyptian "people, and not to leave Egypt until they "have seen those obligations fulfilled."

The other point upon which the policy of Lord Salisbury's Government will, we are assured, meet with the warm approval of the country, is their decision to institute an inquiry by means of a Royal Commission into the condition of British Trade. Lord Salisbury, in addressing a deputation last week on the subject of the Sugar Bounties, let it be seen very clearly what his own view is upon that branch of the subject, at all events; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was equally explicit at Bristol. As to the attitude taken up by a number of leading Radicals in response to the courteous invitation addressed to them by Lord Iddesleigh to take part in the enquiry, the country will very well understand and appreciate the motives which dictated their refusal. Nothing could be more amusing than the evident repugnance entertained by these bigoted Freetraders to an enquiry which may, they fear, exhibit the fallacy of their theories and expose the hollowness of their continual boasting about the blessings which Free Trade has conferred upon the nation. If they had any real faith in their own doctrines, they would be only too glad of an opportunity to prove their truth, and to refute the views of the large and increasing number of people in the country who, in their view, hold heretical opinions on the subject. So far as regards the composition of the Royal Commission, we see no reason to regret the refusal of a number of Radical politicians to join in its deliberations, since their places are admirably filled by practical and experienced men, whose judgment, whatever it may be, will carry with it the greatest weight. There is no question which more deeply interests the masses of the population at the present moment, and by their determination to deal with it the Tory Government will no doubt win a very considerable amount of support among the working classes.

TORIES AND NATIONALISTS.

After the conclusive evidence published by Sir Frederick Milner in the shape of absolute and categorical disavowals from Lord Salisbury, Lord St. Oswald, Lord Randolph Churchill, and Mr. Parnell, Mr. Herbert Gladstone could have done no less than formally withdraw and apologise for his preposterous scandalous misstatement that the Conservatives had concluded a compact with the Irish Nationalists. But he might, for his own credit's sake, have done more. His retractation was certainly wanting in grace, and his repetition by innuendo of the charge against Lord St. Oswald is an aggravation of the original offence. Mr. Herbert Gladstone had also far better have omitted the observation about "declining to be corrected by" Sir Frederick Milner. A gentleman, when he finds he has made a mistake, ought to repair his error in the interests of truth, without reference to the person who has pointed his error out to him. On the whole, it is to be hoped that Mr. Herbert Gladstone will vigilantly guard himself for the future against making reckless and unfounded charges against political opponents. He is acquiring quite a reputation in that line, and if he is not more careful, he may by degrees sink lower and lower, until at last—appalling thought!—he may even get down as low as to the level of Professor Thorold Rogers. Such a prospect as that may well cause the rashest of young politicians to pause in terror.

There is no compact, of course, between Ministers and Mr. Parnell. No man in his sober senses, if Mr. Herbert Gladstone will excuse us for saying so, could for an instant suppose such a thing possible. There is no compact; there is not even an understanding. It may suit the politicians who have for three years suffered the odium attaching to those who were involved in the Kilmainham Treaty to seek to fasten on their rivals a similar stigma. And no doubt they are also very angry with the Irish Nationalists for their desertion of the Radical alliance, to which they attribute the downfall of Mr. Gladstone's Government, oblivious of the fact that that best and wisest of all Administrations really met its fate through the sudden defection of a body of Liberals who were sufficiently numerous to have averted its defeat. Mr. Herbert Gladstone's charges would not, indeed, have deserved much attention but for one fact, and that is a fact which all men can perceive for themselves without aid either from Mr. Herbert Gladstone or any other Radical champion of political morality. What has given its sting to the accusations on one side, and has called forth these strenuous denials on the other, is the conduct of the Conservative Ministers themselves. It would be perfectly idle to deny the allegation that there has been "a most extraordinary change of attitude of "the Tories towards the Nationalists." There is, we quite believe, neither compact nor understanding. What is really open to the severest criticism is this "change of attitude." Lord Carnarvon's declaration of Irish policy is deplored by many Conservatives—ourselves among the number—as imprudent, and based upon an erroneous estimate of the condition of Ireland. But the chief cause of the grave dissatisfaction felt throughout the Tory party has been the line adopted towards the Irish faction by Ministers in the House of Commons. The position taken up by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and Lord Randolph Churchill (an ominous silence was preserved by all the other occupants of the Treasury Bench) with regard to the Maamtrasna case, taken in connection with the attitude assumed by the same two Ministers in the Debate on Mr. Bright's denunciation of the Nationalists, certainly seemed to show that some members of the Tory Cabinet were making a bid for Irish support. The significant cheers which greeted them from the Irish benches confirmed this impression. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the speech he delivered last Saturday at Bristol, was at the pains to praise Lord Spencer in rather more generous terms than he had previously employed in the House of Commons; and he proceeded to reiterate his original contention that the new Irish Government should not be bound by the acts of their predecessors. On this point we can but repeat what we have urged on a former occasion. As regards purely political affairs, the Government may properly decline to be bound by the acts o their predecessors; but with respect to judicia matters there ought to exist no suspicion o any breach of continuity in the action of the Irish Executive.

It can be no cause of satisfaction to Tory journalists to find fault with the doings of a Tory Ministry. But the claims of Principle are above those of Party. Besides, there can be not the least doubt that for a political party to play fast and loose with its principles is in the long run to court disaster. Fidelity to principles is in the end the best and safest policy. It is to be hoped that the Government have at least learnt this lesson from what has occurred in the Conservative ranks during the last few weeks. It is to the Tory party that the country looks for a vindication of political honesty and good faith. The Ministry now at the head of affairs is one which is perfectly capable of proving its claims to national support without resorting to unworthy tricks for catching votes. At home Lord Salisbury's Government has exhibited the most commendable industry and a determination to win the trust of the people by legislative measures on subjects which deeply and intimately affect the national welfare. Abroad their advent to power has produced an effect satisfactory beyond all anticipation, and has already resulted in a diplomatic victory in connection with the vexed question of Egyptian finance. In short, the Tory Administration holds a position of great strength in the country; and, as we believe, its members have only to be true to themselves, their party, and their creed, to obtain from the nation an overwhelming proof of its confidence at the coming General Election.

WHAT ABOUT THE NAVY?

Lord George Hamilton's accession to office as First Lord of the Admiralty was generally hailed as affording a greatly-needed opportunity, to a statesman who knew how to use it, of initiating a real and thorough reform of the British Navy. We are not so unreasonable as to complain of the absence of much

outward indication that the task has yet been taken in hand. The new Government has been busy about many things; its position in the face of a hostile majority in the House of Commons has been an exceptionally difficult one, and we must not expect impossibilities from Ministers who have, at all events, proved their determination to grapple boldly and vigorously with some very thorny and complex problems. And we may be sure that Lord George Hamilton is not one whit behind his colleagues either in efficiency or in zeal. He has no doubt found himself fully occupied in mastering the present condition of his department and generally in "settling down" into his work at the Admiralty. The tone of his speeches about the Navy since his accession to power has left little or nothing to be desired. He seems thoroughly to realise the urgent necessity of Naval reform and to be entirely free from the fatal and foolish optimism of Lord Northbrook and Sir Thomas Brassey.

At the same time we cannot help expressing some disappointment on one point. It was generally understood that the Conservative Government would at once have acted on the suggestion made many months ago by Mr. W. H. Smith, when in Opposition, for the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the whole question of the efficiency of the Navy. Nothing could be more satisfactory than the prompt investigation which Lord George Hamilton has already caused to be instituted into the financial affairs of the Admiralty. A proper system of accounts and a rigid economy will go far to remedying existing evils, and there is no department of the Administration which suffers so much from a wasteful expenditure. But this reform, needful as it is, will by no means cover all the necessities of the case. What is wanted is a searching inquiry into the present state of the Navy, with a view to immediately framing measures for placing it at its proper strength in ships, in guns, and in men. These are matters which cannot be considered apart from the various questions as to the conditions under which, for the future, naval warfare is to be carried on. To the discussion of some of these an important contribution is made by a writer in the current number of the *Edinburgh Review*, who points out the diversities of opinion which exist amongst naval experts on the subject. All these matters require thorough sifting and examination. The British people is thoroughly convinced of the fact that the Navy is very far below its proper standard of efficiency. On that point almost complete unanimity prevails. The danger seems to be lest the difficulty of deciding on the best means of remedying our defects will be made an excuse for doing little or nothing. We are continually being reminded that naval science is making rapid strides, and that many of our costliest ships are now of a more or less obsolete pattern; and hence the conclusion is often drawn that it would be better to wait until we can decide between the relative merits of various types of vessel, and of various systems of naval warfare. But it is precisely because such matters are so subject to change that it would be most unwise to wait for anything like a final solution of these problems before taking steps to increase our naval strength. If we are going to wait for that, we may have to wait for ever. There is no finality in the discoveries of naval or of any other science, and therefore it is our duty not to wait for the developments of scientific discovery, but to push on at once and as quickly as possible with the task of strengthening the Navy at all hazards. We are assured that the ships which we build and the guns which we manufacture now will be, if not obsolete, at least old-fashioned a few years hence. Be it so. That we cannot help. Our duty is to maintain our maritime supremacy by every means and at every cost. The safety of the Empire and the security of our commerce will not wait for the developments of science. It is absolutely necessary that they should be ensured effectively at once, and the nation will not grudge the expense involved in doing so.

It is for these reasons that we cannot but regret the delay, even if it be only for a short period, in the appointment of a Royal Commission. We sincerely hope, at any rate, that during the next few months our leading statesmen will by no means omit to bring the whole subject of the Navy before the country, and will point out soberly and seriously the real bearings of the question. It ought not to be difficult to convince even the new voters that the bare existence of every man, woman, and child in the kingdom is actually dependent on the power of the British Navy in time of war to keep open those communications between these Islands and the rest of the world without which the feeding of our vast population would be impossible; and that an inefficient British Navy means not merely the ruin of British commerce, but the cutting-off of the food supplies of the British people. It is impossible to imagine for an instant that such an appeal would be without its proper effect, or that the country would fail to realise that there is no sacrifice too onerous to secure an object which is absolutely vital to the existence of the nation.

THE REVISED VERSION OF ACTS XV. 23.

It may be within the recollection of some of our readers that a question was raised in our Correspondence columns a few months ago by Mr. Prebendary Joyce with reference to the rendering of the Revised Version of the New Testament of the twenty-third verse of the fifteenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. The passage alluded to forms the opening sentence of the Decree of the First Christian Council of Jerusalem. In the Authorised Version it runs as follows:—"The Apostles "and Elders and brethren send greeting," &c.; or, quite literally from the Received Greek Text, "The Apostles and the Presbyters and the "brethren." Although the Decree opens in this way, we know that it was the work of the Apostles and the Presbyters alone, because it is expressly stated in the second verse of the same chapter that it was to consult them that St. Paul and St. Barnabas repaired to Jerusalem; while in the sixth verse we read that it was they who assembled synodically to consider the question Again, in the fourth verse of the chapter following, we find St. Paul and St. Barnabas actually engaged in delivering the decrees that had been "ordained of the Apostles "and the Presbyters which were at Jerusalem." Why then is mention made of "the brethren" besides "the Apostles and the Presbybers" in the superscription of the Decree? And why is it said in the preceding verse that "it pleased "the Apostles and the Presbyters, with the "whole Church"? Clearly because, while the discussion was confined to the Apostles and Presbyters, and the Decree was enacted by their authority alone, still the matter was considered in public before the whole body of the brethren, and they approved and confirmed the decision. We are reminded in a learned article in the *Quarterly Review*—evidently proceeding from the same masterly pen that has already completely demolished the claim of the Revised Version of the New Testament to public confidence—that this was certainly the view taken by Christian Antiquity. In referring to the Council or to its Decree, the Fathers without exception ignore any besides "the Apostles and "the Presbyters" as its authors.

The point to which Mr. Prebendary Joyce called attention in our columns was the remarkable translation put forth by the New Testament Revisers of the superscription of the Decree. They make it commence as follows:—"The Apostles and the Elder Brethren." As is shown in the *Quarterly Review*, this rendering is the outcome of a reading of the Greek Text which is not only utterly devoid of authority, but which results in an expression that is absolutely untranslatable. Then, in the endeavour to translate it, the Revisers have had recourse to a strange device. They have invented a new ecclesiastical Order of "Elder Brethren" or Lay Elders—a meaning which the words they profess to translate could not possibly bear. The writer in the *Quarterly* traces clearly and convincingly the evident growth of this erroneous reading. The Traditional Text of Acts xv. 23 reads, as we have said, "The Apostles, and the Presbyters, "and the brethren" (οἱ Ἀπόστολοι καὶ οἱ Πρεσβύτεροι καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοί). No doubt it was the seeming discrepancy between this and the other passages where only "the Apostles and the Pres-"byters" are mentioned, that induced a few of the ancients to erase all mention of "the "brethren." But other copyists there were who sought to attain the same end by excising only the first two words, "and the" (καὶ οἱ), thus leaving the word "brethren" (ἀδελφοί) in apposition with "Elders" (Πρεσβύτεροι); so that the whole clause ran as follows:—"The "Apostles and the Presbyters, brethren" (οἱ Ἀπόστολοι καὶ οἱ Πρεσβύτεροι, ἀδελφοί). The little group of manuscripts exhibiting this queer reading are Codex B and Codex Aleph, Codices A and C, Codex D, and two cursives; also the Latin version, which has "*Apostoli et Pres-"byteri, fratres.*" Thus these six witnesses, so often at variance among themselves, are for once found in correspondence. Griesbach, in 1777, was the first critic who marked the words "and the" (καὶ οἱ) as possibly spurious; but Lachmann and the other great modern critics of this century swept them clean away; and the Revisers have done the same. Now the primary reason for discrediting the reading of the six witnesses just named is supplied by the damning fact that they render discordant testimony throughout the Book of the Acts. The article in the *Quarterly* brings together the most convincing evidence of the depraved and untrustworthy character of their several texts in the very environments of the passage we are considering. Such a state of things effectually disposes of any supposed prerogative attaching to these Codices by reason of their antiquity. On the other hand, the purity of the Traditional Text in a passage which occurs in the immediate context is clearly demonstrated by citations from a host of ancient authorities. As to the reading of the Traditional Text in the place before us, it is amply confirmed by ancient testimony, such as the Peschito Syriac version of the second century, the Coptic version and the Apostolical Constitutions in the third, St. Chrysostom in the fourth, Socrates and the Armenian version in the fifth, with other later authorities; besides the vast body of authority comprising every known copy of the Acts, with the exceptions named above.

Thus far external testimony. When we turn to the internal evidence, it is found to point in the same direction. Supposing that the words "and the" (καὶ οἱ) are to be banished from the sentence, we may well ask, with the *Quarterly* Reviewer, how is the sentence to be translated? What does οἱ Ἀπόστολοι καὶ οἱ Πρεσβύτεροι ἀδελφοί mean? It can grammatically mean nothing but "The Apostles and the "Elders which are brethren;" whereas the Revisionists have deliberately rendered it "The Apostles and the Elder Brethren." It is superfluous to point out the intense gravity of introducing such a novelty, or the mischief and danger of sanctioning the notion that not Presbyters but Lay Elders were present at the First Council of Jerusalem. Truly this is, as the Reviewer says, "something worse than an ill-"judged proceeding," for the Revisers are persons who know well the peril of unsettling men's faith, and the wickedness of promulgating error. "This unprecedented gloss," the writer in the *Quarterly* reminds us, "will henceforth be "freely claimed by controversialists as the "rightful translation of the newly recovered "text of the place in question." The authority of the Convocation of Canterbury will be invoked in support of the monstrous theory that Lay Elders sat with the Apostles "as a "supreme court of reference for the decision "of difficult ecclesiastical causes." And this false teaching will be spread abroad in every land by missionaries of the English Church. Surely it is time to protest against the dissemination of so flagrant an error, and to point out the preposterous inconsistency of maintaining that a phrase which confessedly has one meaning in no less than five places out of six (in all of which the reference made is identical) has an altogether different meaning in the sixth of those places. We may well apply to the present case the words of solemn warning which the revered Editor of the *Speaker's Commentary* has lately used with regard to a matter connected with the Revision of the Old Testament:—"I hold," he says, "that the "Church of England, if it authorised" the false doctrine in question, "would incur a "most serious risk of forfeiting its highest and "most characteristic distinction. I do not see "how it could still claim to be a maintainer "and defender of 'the Faith once delivered to "'the Saints.'" We cannot help observing that to us, at least, there seems a fatal appropriateness in the fact that an undertaking which was at the outset inaugurated by a sacrilegious Communion at Westminster Abbey should result in the betrayal of truth and the propagation of heresy.

It will be seen by the letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury which we print elsewhere, that his Grace has at last publicly expressed an opinion on the conduct of the persons responsible for the "apocalypse of evil." We can only say that we have read that letter with the deepest regret. Anything more painfully inadequate to the obvious requirements of the case it would be impossible to conceive. If we do not criticise his Grace's letter in detail, it is because we could not say all we think about it without seeming to go beyond the limits which our reverence for his office imposes. But if we say the less, we think the more; and we are certain that Churchmen in general feel deeply pained and humiliated by the course which the Archbishop has so unfortunately thought fit to adodt. We may call attention to an admirable letter on the subject in our Correspondence columns.

Reviews.

A NEW TRANSLATION OF THE ILIAD.*

We take credit to ourselves for having been among the first to recognise the great merits of the translation of the *Odyssey* which was published about a year ago by a writer who veiled his personality under the pseudonym of "Avia." The harmless, if somewhat feeble, play of words which underlay that pseudonym is now explained, and in Mr. Arthur S. Way, Headmaster of Wesley College, Melbourne, Australia, is revealed the author of so admirable an addition to the long list of Homeric translations. To the version of the *Odyssey*—of which, and not of the *Odyssey* itself, as claimed by the title-page of the present work, Mr. Way was the author—is now added a first instalment of a version of the *Iliad*, containing the first six books of that great poem. It was only to be expected that after the remarkable success which the translator had achieved in the one he should be induced to attempt the other of the immortal Homeric epics. Our readers will see that we are still old-fashioned enough to hold to the unity of authorship, despite the vast amount of literature which has been written to prove that inability to realise the marvel of the existence of one Homer ought to incline us to believe in the far greater marvel of the existence of many Homers. We are not, however, now concerned with the problem of the Homeric poems, but with the latest attempt to reproduce the *Iliad* for English readers. This is a marked success, though hardly, to our mind, so great and so assured a success as the similar attempt in relation to the *Odyssey* which has placed Mr. Way in the first rank of poetical translators. The necessity for obeying Mr. Matthew Arnold's canon that true poetry in one language is only to be rendered by true poetry in another, has won by degrees a yet more hearty recognition in critical circles, and, despite the great and well-merited success of the prose versions of the *Iliad* and of the *Odyssey* supplied by Mr. Walter Long and his colleagues, we yet turn with a more cordial appreciation to such a rendering as that now under notice. The metre in the volume before us is much the same as that employed in the translation of the *Odyssey*, but with some variations which are not altogether for the better. We miss the recurrence of rhymes in the middle of the verse which were a feature of the former work, and there is perhaps more of roughness and of haste in the book before us than in its predecessor. But it is still, after making every allowance for such shortcomings, a very striking book, and one of which, if we did not compare it with the translations of the *Odyssey*, we should speak with nothing but praise. It is rather hard on Mr. Way to have to be compared with himself, and we may fairly say that he would not have found the test of comparison with any other Homeric translator from the days of Chapman downwards, and even including Chapman, half so severe. Complaint has been made in some quarters of what is charged against Mr. Way as an overfondness for compound words; but to our mind these compounds add very much to the effect of the translation, and are as a rule thoroughly in harmony with the Greek original. As we said in our review of Mr. Way's *Odyssey*, so we may say of his *Iliad*, that "passage after passage of true poetic power and "of genuine apreciation of the great original "are presented to us, and we are led on from "passage to passage with a keen sense of enjoy-"ment which is very unusual in the student of "such productions." We make no excuse for repeating this verdict, as it really expresses what we felt in reading the translation of the *Odyssey* and what we feel in reading the translation of the *Iliad*, so that it is idle to attempt to put our impressions into a different form of words. At present Mr. Way has only dealt with the first six books of the *Iliad*, but we trust that he will before long complete his task. We may concede to some of the less favourable critics who have scanned it with a microscopic eye that it lacks finish in some places, and we believe that on a careful revision, with the *limæ labor* which haste of publication has denied to it, some improvement may be made in places, though we trust without impairing the spirited vigour of the whole. We are not ourselves inclined to dwell on the few passages which might be so improved, but would rather give our readers some impression of the general effect of the work. This is best done by selecting for quotation a few extracts made almost at random, not searching out for *purpurei panni*, but rather trying to exemplify the general and we must add the high level of excellence attained. Let us take as our first instance the gathering of the Greeks:—

And the saying pleased Agamemnon, the lord of a warrior folk.
To the heralds with voice clear-pealing his best forthright he spoke
To call to the battle-toil the Achaians with long-flowing hair.
And they made proclamation, and swiftly the war-folk gathered there.
And the heaven-fostered kings by the son of Atreus' side
Sped swiftly arraying the host, and Athênê the flashing-eyed
Was there with her glorious immortal Aegis that waxeth not old;
Danced they and streamed on the wind, its hundred tassels of gold,
All lovely-twisted, and each was the worth of a hundred kine:
Flashing it sped she adown the Achaian battle-line,
And ever she spurred them on, and she filled each heart with might,
And she made them fain of the onset, afire for the stintless fight.
And suddenly fairer and sweeter the battle-play seemed unto these

* *The Iliad of Homer.* Books I. to VI. Done into English verse by Arthur S. Way, M.A.—London: Sampson Low and Co., 1885.

Than to flee in the hollow ships to their fatherland far overseas.
As flameth a ravening fire through a forest measureless wide
On a mountain-ridge, and the glare of it lightens on every side,
So the unearthly sheen of the brass as the host swept on
Flashed far through the welkin, and up to the heaven of heavens it shone.
And from them—as the myriad tribes of the flying fowl of the air,
The armies of geese, of the cranes, of the long-necked swans snow-fair,
In an Asian mead by Cayster's waters softly fleeting
Hitherward hover and thither with triumphing wings glad-beating,
As with clangour and clashing they settle; the whole mead ringeth again;
So from the tents and the galleys came nation on nation of men
Pouring forth to the plain of Scamander, and ever the deep earth under
With the tramp of the ranks and the stamping of steeds rang terrible thunder.
In the mead of Scamander they halted, the green mead starred with flowers,
Countless as leaves or as blossoms that wake under spring-tide showers.
Even as the multitudinous flies in swarms untold,
That are wheeling and dancing in Spring evermore round byre and fold,
When the milk in the pail foams up, and the bubbles are bright at the brim,
So swarmed in the plain the Achaian long-haired warriors grim
Furious-fain to be rending the Trojans limb from limb.
And lightly as herdmen sever their goats by drove and drove,
When mingle the wide-scattered flocks through the pastures afar as they rove,
So the war-chiefs marshalled the people, and ranged them to march to the fray;
And Lord Agamemnon towered in the midst of them all that day,
Like Zeus the thunder-triumphant in eyes and in head was he,
And as Arês' his loins were, his breast as Poseidon's, the Lord of the Sea.
And even as a bull doth in goodlihead all the herd outshine,
Forasmuch as he standeth fair to be seen mid the gathered kine,
Even so did Zeus that day make Atreides the hero-king
Peerless mid thousands, and chief in the chieftain's gathering.

This passage, we need hardly say, is from the Second Book; but when he comes to the Sixth Book, Mr. Way strikes a yet higher note—it would almost seem as if he warmed up to his task; and we venture to say that one of the most beautiful and most famous passages in the great Homeric poem has never been better rendered than in the following extract, for the length of which we should apologise, but we have not the heart to mutilate it:—

And Hector the mighty, the splendour-helmeted, answered and said:
"Yea, wife, all this do I also remember; but sorely I dread
Troy's sons, and her scornful daughters royally-robed, and the sneer
Of the lips that will mock if I shrink from the war as in craven fear.
And mine own soul crieth against it, for have not I learned evermore
To stand in the forefront of fight, and to play the man in the war,
Winning renown for the name of my father, yea, and mine own?
For of this is mine heart assured, to mine inmost soul is it known:
The day wherein Ilium the holy shall perish will come, it is near
Unto Priam withal, and the folk of the king of the ashen spear.
Yet it is not the grief that shall come on the Trojans that moveth me so,
Nor yet is mine heart so heavy for Priam and Hekabê's woo,
Nor yet for my brethren, the many and valiant, that low in the dust
Shall fall, whom the hands of their foes through the gates of the grave shall thrust,
As for thee, when a mail-clad Achaian to bondage shall lead thee away
Weeping, and take from thine eyes the light of freedom's day;
And in Argos my darling shall weave at another's behest, and bring
The pitcher at dawn from Messêis or Hypereia's spring
Sore loth—but the yoke of resistless constraint o'er thy neck shall be cast:
And thus shall they say, as their hard eyes watch thy tears flow fast:
'Lo, this is the wife of Hector, the chiefest in battle-renown
Of the horse-quelling Trojans in days when they warred round Ilium-town.'
So shall they speak: on thy soul at my name new anguish shall fall
With aching of heart for thy hero, thy shield from the lot of the thrall.
But me may the grave-mound cover, the earth my dead face veil
Or ever I hear thy shriek, and thine enthralment's tale."
So spake he, and Hector the glorious stretched his arms to his son:
But back to the fair-girt nurse's bosom the little one
Shrank crying aloud, at the face of his father suddenadread,
In affright at the glittering brass with the dark mane overshed,
For awful it seemed in his eyes overglooming the helmet's light.
Then loving father and queenly mother laughed at the sight.
But Hector the glorious took the helm from his head forthright,
And he set on the earth at his feet that beacon-flame of fight.
And he took up his child in his arms, and he kissed him, and tossed him on high:
Therewithal unto Zeus and the rest of the gods in prayer did he cry:
"O Zeus and the rest of the gods, vouchsafe that this child of mine
May, even as I, mid the Trojans in glory-pre-eminence shine,
So valiant in prowess, and sit in his might upon Ilium's throne,
Till the people shall say, 'The father is far by the son outdone!'
As he cometh from war; and the slaughtered foemen's spoils blood-dyed
May he bear, that the heart of his mother may swell with joy and pride."
As he spake, in the arms of his dear-loved wife he laid his child;
And she in her fragrant bosom received her darling, and smiled,
Smiled through her tears, and her husband beheld her pity-stirred,
And with kind love-lingering touch did he soothe her, and spake the word:
"Nay, break not thine heart, my beloved, with sorrow over-great;
For no man shall hurl me adown unto Hades against my fate.
But I ween there is none that may flee from the doom ordained at his birth,
Nor the craven, nor yet the valiant, when once he is born on the earth.
But thou, enter into the house, to the labours of woman give heed,
To the toils of the spindle and loom, and command thy maidens to speed
Their tasks, but for war shall the men take thought, and for these shall it be,
Even all that in Ilium abide, and chiefest of all for me."
So spake he, and Hector the glorious his helm from the earth hath ta'en,
Dark-maned: and his dear-loved wife hath hied her homeward again,
Oft looking back, while fell her tears like the winter rain.
And it was so, that when she was come to the mansion builded fair
Of the slayer of heroes, she found the throng of her handmaids there;
And her mourning hath shaken their hearts, and awakened the wail of their grief:
Yea, in his halls, while he lived, were they wailing for Hector the chief;
For they deemed he would never come back from the midst of the battle again,
Escaped from the might and the hands of the strong Achaian men.

It is not difficult to recognise here the true Homeric ring; and though, as we have before said in treating of Mr. Way, we do not profess to say that to those who know not the great original, the full effect which it produces on the most favoured ones who do know it can ever be reproduced, still it is something to have it so admirably shadowed forth. It is hardly too much to hope that Mr. Way's version may produce the same effect on many an intelligent reader unacquainted with Greek that Chapman's version produced on Keats; and though we cannot expect that we shall soon again meet with another Keats, yet many an English student will realise from this version what the gifted young poet felt when, like a new Balboa silent upon a peak in Darien, he saw the new planet swim into his ken. The radiance of that planet is yet better represented to the English reader by Mr. Way than it was by Chapman, and this which is the highest tribute of praise that can be accorded to the translator of Homer, is, we cordially and sincerely believe, not too high a praise for the translator whose work is now before us.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

The political article in the *Quarterly Review* is a powerfully and pungently written "Retrospect of the Gladstone Ministry." The shameful career of the late Government is described with great ability and in terms of the most severe condemnation. And yet it strikes us on reading it as falling far short of the demerits of that worst of modern Administrations. The most effective portion of the article is a brief enumeration, under fourteen heads, of the most famous achievements of the Gladstone Ministry. This ought to be reprinted separately and distributed as a leaflet during the next General Election; and indeed the whole article is well worth the attentive perusal of Tory candidates and orators, who will find in it quite an armoury of effective weapons for use against the enemy in the coming contest. "The First Christian Council (A.D. 50)" is a masterly exposure, from a well-known hand, of the error committed by the Revisers of the New Testament in translating Acts xv. 23. We have never read anything more convincing, and the whole evidence is now, we believe, for the first time laid before the public in its entirety. The subject is treated at length in our leading columns this week. Lord Lytton's *Glenaveril*, recently reviewed by ourselves, comes in for some appreciative criticism. We are glad to meet with a protest against the "assuming and inane "verbiage, cast in the mould of profundity," that characterises so much modern poetry, and to which Lord Lytton's clear and definite ideas present a striking and welcome contrast; and we agree in the estimate here formed of *Glenaveril*, that, whatever its minor defects, it is "a great, beautiful, "and singularly original poem." The series of articles on eminent French divines is represented by one on Fénelon, who is here depicted in colours which to many—ourselves amongst the number—must seem untrue to nature. To represent him as an intolerant bigot is, we think, to fail altogether in forming a right estimate of Fénelon's character. But the article, like all in this series, will well repay study. The paper on the Channel Islands will please many readers. Their political position, their history from the earliest times, their institutions, their laws, their soil, are all duly considered in order. In the next article Sir James Stephen's book on Nuncomar and Sir Elijah Impey receives favourable notice, and the flagrant injustice of Macaulay's charges against Impey is deservedly exposed. Perhaps the worst feature of Macaulay's treatment of Impey's memory is the fact that he still adhered to the accusations he had brought, even after Impey's son had published his defence of his father. As the Reviewer says, "A book so "pathetic, so heart-rending, in the sincerity of its "clumsy efforts to vindicate the fame of a father, "and to strike back at the defamer, as is the "younger Impey's Memoir, ought to have made "Macaulay resolve to test and re-test his charges "once more. . . . . It was cruel before the evident "affliction of the son not to have re-investigated "them." Of course it was; but re-investigation would have brought out the truth, and truth never was Macaulay's object. Macaulay's mind was essentially that of a narrow-minded, unprincipled bigot—of a type too common among Radicals. He stuck at nothing to further his aims, and the sooner his shameless literary dishonesty is realised by the public, the better. No writer has done more mischief in his time than Macaulay; and it is one of the chief merits of Sir James Stephen's book that it knocks another nail into the coffin of the reputation of an impostor who prostituted his great literary power to the basest ends. The interesting article on "Pitt's Foreign Policy" is based upon the collection of Bland-Burges Papers which we lately reviewed, and upon the political memoranda of the fifth Duke of Leeds, published last year. Both these works throw much light on an important period of English history, and bear witness to the marvellous genius of Pitt as exhibited in his foreign policy. "English Society "and its Historians" concedes far too great an importance, to our thinking, to such a wretched farrago of tittle-tattle and gossip as *Society in London*, by a person who styles himself "A Foreign Resident" The Reviewer points out the striking similarity of thought evident between certain passages in this work and others to be found in Mr. Escott's book, *England*. The likeness is certainly remarkable. It is suggested that the "Foreign Resident" took his ideas from Mr. Escott; but that is not the only possible, or even the most probable, explanation. As to Count Paul Vasili's work, *La Société de Londres*, the fact deserves to be remembered that all the nastiest and most offensive parts of it were promptly reproduced by the same London newspaper which is now again trading in obscenity, under the hypocritical pretence of promoting virtue. A fairly interesting paper on the "Electress Sophia" and an able and sensible defence of the "Game Laws" complete the number.

Of the political article in the *Edinburgh Review*, "The Parting of the Waters," we wrote at length when it first appeared. An additional indication of the gulf which exists between the old-fashioned principles of the Whig organ and the new-fangled Radicalism of the day is to be found in another article in the current number, on the "City Livery Companies," which warmly upholds their rights against the proposals of the majority Report of the Royal Commission. The Reviewer declares that the attack on the Companies is really an attack on the rights of property and the rights of freedom, and he concludes with a word of commendation of the energetic action of the Liberty and Property Defence League. The place of honour in the *Edinburgh* is rightly accorded to a remarkable article on "The Life and Works of John Keats." The Reviewer refers with justifiable pride to the fact that it was in the *Edinburgh*, in an article written by Jeffrey in August, 1820, that the first distinct and favourable notice of the poetry of Keats appeared. In "The Memoirs of Count Pasolini" we have a striking sketch of the doubtless honest, but singularly weak, man—the friend both of Pope Pius IX. and Victor Emmanuel, of Antonelli and Cavour—who was thoroughly identified with the Revolutionary movement for the unification of Italy. The article is written from the point of view of the enthusiastic Palmerstonian Liberals, who thought Revolution, Anarchy, Sedition, and Rebellion excellent things for other nations and peoples, though, of course, not for their own country. Now that we have had a taste of these blessings a little nearer home, Englishmen in general have rather modified their views on the subject. The false glamour which once surrounded the movement for the so-called Liberation of Italy has rather worn off, and it is now generally understood that, in spite of highflown professions, the whole scheme had for its object the very commonplace one of the aggrandisement of Sardinia at the expense of her neighbours. The cry of Freedom for the oppressed was a hollow pretext for robbery. Most of the Italian States—Tuscany in particular—were far better governed than Sardinia then was, or (for that matter) than Italy is now. Cavour was an astute and unprincipled politician, who contrived to use ruffians and filibusters of the Garibaldi stamp as catspaws for his Royal master. "Verrall on the Odes of Horace" is a scholarly and discriminating review of a scholarly work. "The French in North America" is an admirably written account of the French settlements in the New World, from the foundation of New France by Samuel de Champlain, who was almost as much missionary as explorer. The history of the French in Canada is roughly included under the three periods of the rule of the Company of New France from 1608 to 1629, the thirty-three years of Jesuit ascendency, and the century from 1665 to 1763 when Canada was a military colony. The most remarkable of these epochs is, to our mind, the second, during which the Jesuit Fathers strove for the conversion of the Indians with indomitable though unsuccessful courage. The magnificent martyrdoms of Brébeuf, Jogues, Lalemant, and others, and the terrible persecution of the Christian converts, invests this period with an unequalled interest. It is to be remarked that the recently suppressed rising in the North-West indicates the survival of a considerable hostility, based on race and religion, to the English ascendency. The paper on "Harbours and Docks" recounts the present condition of most of the principal harbours of Great Britain, and the measures contemplated or in progress for improving them. The Reviewer laments the absence of any systematic information of the kind supplied by the Governments of other countries, and such as it is surely the duty of the State, rather than of private individuals, to collect and circulate. The article concludes with the timely appeal for the efficient fortification of our principal forts, as for instance the Mersey, the Clyde, and the Tyne. "Sir Henry Taylor's Autobiography" and "Bishop Temple's Lectures on Religion and "Science" are the remaining papers in the present number.

The *Church Quarterly Review* opens with an article on "The New Hieroglyphs of Western "Asia." The writer, himself evidently no inconsiderable authority on the subject, very reasonably deprecates the theories which Professor Sayce and others have hastily built on the most slender premisses, with reference to a supposed Hittite Empire. Very much more stronger evidence is necessary before any trustworthy conclusion can be arrived at on the subject. A first paper on "The Revised Version of the Old "Testament" deals with the history of the English Bible, with the necessity for its revision, and with the history of the formation of the Hebrew Text. A criticism of the Revised Version is promised in the next number of the *Review*; but the writer's first impressions of the work are "decidedly favourable," though he thinks the Revisers have been "too conservative." "Did the State Establish the Church?" is an admirable reply to the Liberation Society's "Case "for Disestablishment," which deserves to be read and studied by all who are interested in the question, and above all by our legislators. Mr. Curteis's *Boyle Lectures* are treated in an article which forms a sequel to the review in the last number of Dr. Temple's *Bampton Lectures*. The title of both is "Religion and Science." The "Religious Training of Candidates for "Holy Orders" is an admirable paper, of which the principal point is its plea for a special pastoral training and a special devotional discipline. These, it is contended, should be conducted under the supervision of the Episcopate, aided by the Chapter of the Cathedral Church. Both the historical papers in the present number are noticeable. One, on "Charles Leslie and the "Nonjurors," brings into prominence the fact that the Nonjurors were in no sense of the term a "sect." They never separated themselves from the Church of England. The memories of these excellent men has happily long since been cleared from the unjust reproaches cast at them by Radical and Freethinking historians, among whom, it is needless to observe, Macaulay is, of course, well to the fore. The other historical article is a good sketch of the "Diocesan "History of Winchester." The paper on "The Moralities of Socialism" is decidedly dry reading, and it deals too tenderly with Socialist doctrines; but the demoralising tendencies of Socialist theories are well stated in the latter half of it. The "Rise and Decay of the "English Yeomanry" is full of interest. The question considered is how the soil came to be concentrated in the hands of a small number of owners. The writer first sketches the condition of rural society in the reign of Edward I., when the land of each village consisted of three parts—arable fields, meadow land, and common waste. The tenants were of two classes—the Free Tenants, who were not definitely tied to the estate, and the Villains, who were so tied. Each farm consisted, not of a compact holding, but of a number of half-acre strips. The Black Death of 1348, which swept away half the population, created a scarcity of labour; the tenants were masters of the situation, and both classes of them gained a better position. In the fifteenth century a revolution in farming took place; the woollen manufactures of the Eastern Counties encouraged landlords to betake themselves to sheep-farming, while arable farming, owing to the high scale of wages, was carried on nearly at a loss. Hence the extensive rearrangement of the land in large fields and its enclosure by fences. The landlord with his sheep-farm gained by the new arrangement, and so did the tenant, the greater compactness of whose holding enabled him to farm more economically. The complaints about enclosing in the time of the Tudors were due to numerous cases of unfair enclosing, which defrauded the people of their common rights. And the people who came worst off were the former "villains," to whom new holdings were not allotted; and the evil was aggravated under the absentee proprietors who, by Henry VIII.'s robbery of the Church, succeeded the monks as landlords. Lastly, the writer shows how in the seventeenth century there was little change; but, soon after the middle of the eighteenth century, the landlords began to unite small holdings, the small leaseholders disappeared, and of the yeomanry some went to seek their fortunes elsewhere, while others were reduced to the ranks of the labourers. These changes were due to economic reasons, and the evidence afforded by the small holdings that still exist (as for instance in the Isle of Axholme) shows that the old system of small holdings could not have survived, whatever may, in the future, be the fate of a new system of small holdings with men who devote themselves to spade-husbandry or market-gardening.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

Mr. Archibald Forbes stands at the head of the war correspondents of the day, and not even Dr. W. H. Russell in all his glory could compare with him. We regret to find that he looks on himself as *donatus jam rude*, and that we are not to look forward to yet another chronicle of war from his accomplished pen. But the hard life, the excitement, and the fatigue have told on him as on so many of his colleagues; and he is now fain to content himself and his readers with gathering all the fragments of his reminiscences of the past

Such a gathering up is to be found in this "extremely discursive book"—we use his own words—which he has just published, under the title of *Souvenirs of Some Continents* (Macmillan and Co.). The bulk of the papers comprised in the present volume have already appeared in various periodicals—some of them we have recently met with in the *English Illustrated Magazine*—but one or two are now for the first time published. Among the latter, if we mistake not, are the sketches of society in America and of society in Australia, which are not, however, so interesting as those more professional papers which show the war correspondent at his best. His eloquent tribute to the most gifted of his colleagues, M'Gahan; his glowing eulogy of Skobeleff, his character sketch of Lord Wolseley, and the remarkable personal experiences of Mr. Forbes himself in his early career as a war correspondent and when interviewing an Emperor, left a vivid impression upon our mind when we first read them, and lose none of their effect on a reperusal. The book is a capital one, and can hardly fail to be popular with a large circle of readers. Few people have seen so much that is worth seeing, and still fewer could have described what they have seen with so much effect.

Colonel Hozier, one of the best military historians of the day, whose *Seven Weeks' War* was a model of what such a book should be, has been entrusted by the editor of the series of *Military Biographies*, now in course of publication by Chapman and Hall, to supply to that series a life of *Turenne*. He has performed his task with much skill, and has given a connected story of the life of the great Marshal from his sickly boyhood to the day when he fell mortally wounded by a roundshot on the hill above the Salzbach. This story, though mainly intended for the military student, will be found very attractive by the general reader, as Colonel Hozier, while a thorough master of the professional side of his subject, writes with a vigour and a spirit which make his book very pleasant reading for others than the professional student. He has found in Turenne a subject well worthy of his powers, and though the changes in the art of war which have recently taken place may perhaps render a study of the great Marshal's achievements less practically useful than it was when Napoleon devoted himself to that study, it is well that the greatest soldier of the armies of the Bourbon Monarchy, who was warmly appreciated by the greatest soldier of the armies of the Revolution, should not want an English *vates sacer*. He was not, indeed, always successful, and Colonel Hozier does not hold him up as a perfect hero or an infallible soldier; but he adds, with a burst of enthusiasm, that "he probably approached "more nearly to the heroic and more nearly "to infallibility than any other captain who has "ever drawn sword." It is certainly no small tribute of praise which he bestows upon the Marshal when he says that he more resembled Gonzalvo of Cordova than any other of his predecessors, and Wellington than any other of his successors. Nor is it without interest to remember that, as Gainsborough when dying murmured, "We are all going to Heaven, and Vandyke is of "the company," so Napoleon, when dying, said that he was going to rejoin his old comrades, and that they should "talk together of the soldier's "art with Frederick, Turenne, Condé, Cæsar, and "Haunibal." The life of a leader who held such a place in the estimation of such a judge must be worth studying by all interested in military biography, and Colonel Hozier has deserved well of all students of military biography by the admirable life of Turenne which he has here furnished.

Scrope's Salmon Fishing is hardly so established a classic as *Scrope's Deer Stalking*, but at the same time it is well worthy of a new edition in these days of new editions. The present reissue, published at a much cheaper rate than the original, by Messrs. Hamilton, Adams, and Co., reproduces the old illustrations, though somewhat the worse for wear; and there will no longer be any excuse for the absence of the book from the smoking-room of any country house. There are some books which no smoking-room should be without, and this is one of them. Another reissue by the same firm is the enlarged and revised edition of Captain Lloyd's volume on the *Field Sports of the North of Europe*, which forms an excellent contribution to the sporting literature of Sweden and Norway. In the present edition various passages have been introduced from other works by the same writer, and those portions of the original book which were political and economical rather than sporting have been omitted, whereby the book is brought into harmony with its second title, *A Narrative of Angling, Hunting, and Shooting in Sweden and Norway*. At the present day, when English sportsmen are so much attracted to these far-off regions of the North, such a book has a special value. The author was a keen sportsman and possessed of no little literary skill, and his book, in its present revised and enlarged form, is a valuable addition to the sporting literature of the day. Messrs. Hamilton, Adams, and Co. have done well to reproduce it in its present shape, and like the better-known works of Mr. Scrope, it will be invaluable for the country house.

Amongst the many Birthday Books which have been published of late the *Birthday-book of Christian Names* (Marcus Ward) should assuredly take a foremost place. The plan of the work is novel, interesting, and at the same time useful, giving as it does the meaning of every Christian name, male and female, accompanied by an apt quotation from some one or other of the poets. We may further add that we have rarely seen a book the printing and general get-up of which are so fully deserving of commendation.

We have received from Messrs. Griffith, Farran, and Co. *A Summer Christmas*, by Mr. Douglas Sladen, an Oxford graduate, a dexterous rhymester, and a genial-spirited Australian colonist. The poem, somewhat verbose, is dramatic in form and style, with numerous changes in metre—mainly penned, however, in Hudibrastic verse. Several versified tales of ancient heroes and others are interspersed, after the manner of Longfellow's *Wayside Inn*. It deals with Christmastide in the colonies, and is a pleasant, dashingly written, and vigorous volume, in which there is considerable grace of expression, much power in parts, occasional delicacy of thought and fine feeling, but, on the whole, of very unequal merit. The greater part of it is the merest verse, and nothing more—skilful often, and sometimes readable, but not poetry. Certain of the Greek legends are told with some taste, and are readable enough. The author, evidently "a "nineteenth-century versifier," wants more thought, greater skill and art, and perhaps more repose.

Correspondence.

THE "NEW APOCALYPSE OF EVIL."

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—It is indeed, as you justly observe, "more than doubtful whether the Criminal Law Amendment Bill will fulfil the hopes entertained in regard to it," if it does not even produce some evils as serious as any it is intended to correct. The main difficulty all along has been, and must continue to be, not the inadequacy of the law to punish convicted criminals, but the almost impossibility of obtaining trustworthy evidence in such cases—which no change of the law can effect—and, on the other hand, the obvious facilities, which the present measure will necessarily increase, for intimidation and blackmailing on the part of those whose interests it is intended to protect. The "new crusade" has been worked chiefly on the strength of two popular fallacies, the first of which was very properly exposed the other day by Sir William Harcourt in the House of Commons. It is the conviction of those best qualified to form a judgment from having been compelled in the prosecution of their duty, whether as clergymen or barristers, to acquire an intimate knowledge of a very unpleasant subject, that (1) in nine cases out of ten, when a girl goes wrong, her partner in guilt—as Sir W. Harcourt pointed out—is of her own class, not of a higher rank; (2) that in at least three cases out of six the girl is originally the more culpable of the two. The ideal "maidens" of recent romance are the exception, not the rule; and it must be feared that a mistaken estimate of this point has had some influence on the shaping of the present Bill which may lead to future inconvenience. It is not, however, on that aspect of the matter that I wished to dwell here.

Whatever may or may not be the prospective benefits of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, it is high time that an emphatic protest should be raised—and especially by the clergy—in the highest interests of Christian morality, against the unprecedented kind of agitation which has preceded and accompanied, and—as its promoters are careful to advertise us—is designed also *to follow* its passing into law, culminating in the scandalous programme of a monster meeting in Hyde-park, where vocal utterance may, and of course will, be given to the torrent of undisguised obscenity with which, for the last five weeks, certain channels of the daily press have been so copiously inundated. On the manifest criminality of those who have devised and carried out the plot of this most immoral and demoralising "crusade" in the alleged interests of morality, and who have no claim on our forbearance or respect, it is needless to waste any words; they may be left to the just condemnation—to speak of no higher tribunal—of their own consciences (if they have any), and of all right-thinking men.

But it is a graver scandal when persons whose character and office alike entitle them to respect condescend to follow the lead of such evil counsellors, and lend their high sanction to the perpetration of a public crime, which they should have been the first to rebuke, and the extent and malignity of which it is not easy to exaggerate. I do not insist on the worse than worthlessness of the abortive, not to say farcical, investigations of an amateur Secret Committee at the Mansion House, who had neither the qualifications nor the means of arriving at any practical result, and who began by deliberately excluding from the scope of their inquiry the only point of any real importance—viz., the truth of the specific charges alleged—while they contented themselves with framing a so-called "judgment," based on evidence of which the public knows nothing, and amounting simply to a vague generalisation of what everybody knew just as well before. Had their unproved and unauthorised verdict, however, been as weighty as it was worthless, that would be no compensation or excuse for the terrible scandal of their consenting to mix themselves up with such a business at all, which is portentous as a moral fact. This is not the language of rhetoric or passion, but of sober truth; and, to make my meaning clearer, I will state the case in the form least unfavourable to those concerned.

Let us assume, then, for argument's sake, what it is not easy seriously to believe—how difficult, indeed, the *Spectator* of last Saturday showed plainly enough—the unmixed purity of the motives of those who plotted and executed "the crusade." That only places them at best in the same category with the compilers and disseminators of the filthy *Confessional Unmasked* eighteen years ago, which moreover was far less filthy and dangerous reading than the newly published "Apocalypse," but was—unlike the latter—promptly and very rightly suppressed by the action of the law. Let us make the further and quite extravagant assumptions, (1), that the Bill would not have passed this Session—as it pretty certainly would—without the aid of this obscene "Apocalypse;" and (2), that it will secure all the benefits the authors of the Apocalypse profess to anticipate from it, if indeed it effects a tithe of the benefits which demonstrably *were* secured by the Contagious Diseases Act, which these same purists lose no opportunity of reviling, and which, in deference to their fanatical outcry, the late Government had the criminal weakness to suspend—with what disastrous consequences we know, from the unanimous testimony of clergy, magistrates, and doctors of all the towns to which it applied.

But, after making all these violent and extreme assumptions, it still remains true—first, that the attempted remedy is and will be infinitely more deadly than the disease; secondly, that the world has not hitherto witnessed so hideous and gigantic an illustration of the vile principle of doing evil that good may come. No such suggestion was dreamt of by the most unscrupulous of the Jesuit sophists who fall under Pascal's lash in the *Provinciales*, and that in two ways. In the first place, the self-styled "Commissioners" of the *Pall-Mall Gazette* have, according to their own account, bribed or purchased several girls to become the willing victims of prostitution; by what kind of arts some of those children were kidnapped from their parents may be learnt from an ugly but uncontradicted story, told with full particulars of names, dates, &c., in the *St. James's Gazette*, one person implicated being *a clergyman's wife!*

Now, if I do not misread the A B C of moral theology—not to appeal to the express words of our Lord Himself—to resolve on the commission of mortal sin is to be guilty of mortal sin in the sight of God, though circumstances may prevent intention developing into overt act. To this, however, the "Commissioners" have systematically, by their own confession, incited their victims; and—incredible as it sounds—the Episcopal Committee has condoned their crime. In the next place, they have flooded the whole country with a new and abnormally piquant variety of Holywell-street literature, price 2d., which Sodom would have blushed to see, but which they get hawked about in every town of this Christian land by newsboys—who presumably have souls as well as the ideal "maidens"—for the delectation of boys and girls. A friend of mine the other day observed several of the stall-girls at the Inventories gloating over the *illustrated* edition of this nameless filth! It may well be questioned if the combined malice and astuteness of a fiend from the bottomless pit could have devised a more effective scheme for sowing broadcast the ineradicable seeds of deadly moral pollution in the minds of our millions of English youths of both sexes from one end of the country to the other. And those who have disseminated the poison are careful to announce daily, with cynical exultation, the enormous popularity of their filthy wares.

Now for this wholesale propaganda of uncleanness, with all its fruitful outgrowth of sin and shame, the conductors and "Commissioners" of the *Pall-Mall Gazette* are themselves directly responsible before God and man; but those also are indirectly and very really responsible who have come forward to abet, or condone, or commend their evil work. And among the last a conspicuous place must be assigned, precisely on account of their conspicuous position, to those Eminent and Most Reverend and Right Reverend Prelates, Anglican or Roman, who took part in the solemn farce of the Mansion House investigation, or who, like the Archbishop of York and—*mirabile dictu*—the Bishop of Durham, have in other ways publicly testified their approval of "the new crusade." No doubt the intentions of these high dignitaries are excellent, but excellent intentions can neither excuse nor cure the irreparable and incalculable mischief they have done by contributing to the national diffusion of "this pestiferous nuisance."

The late Mr. P. J. Smyth, a devout Irish Roman Catholic M.P. of Nationalist leanings, but who was deeply shocked at the virtual complicity of so many Bishops and priests with what he called "The League of Hell"—viz., the Fenian programme of murder and rebellion—has left on record in a posthumous pamphlet—published by his widow in accordance with his dying wishes—his sorrowful conviction that "the Catholic Church has failed as a moral teacher in Ireland." If we are to judge from the conduct of these most eminent and learned prelates, I am afraid we must acknowledge that in this case both Churches, the Established and the Roman Catholic, alike have signally "failed as moral teachers" in England.

August 10. H. N. O.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—The dictum of an intelligent young solicitor at one of our largest commercial centres lately was, that comparing home with foreign investments, the dividends on the former were falling, those on the latter rising. I understand his remark to apply to not mere bubble companies and "flying kites" of either home or foreign markets, but securities of a substantial and permanent character. And this appears to be confirmed by the great and growing preponderance of our imports over our exports. The decline of exports, I take it, moves on the whole parallel with the decline of home investments, the increase of imports with the increase of foreign investments. But however that may be, of the alarming disproportion which imports have lately reached there is no doubt. The average excess of these over exports in the seven years 1877-83 touched close upon £119,000,000. The question before us is, how is this enormous bill paid so far? and, more seriously still, how is it, with its present tendency and rate of increasing disproportion to be paid in the future? I will for the year 1884 cite a "Cobden Club" leaflet, No. XXIX., merely correcting one or two glaring errors.

This gives, "Total exports, British produce and manufactures, £232,927,575." It then wrongly adds, "Exports, foreign and colonial produce, £ (I omit this)." It next gives, "Total real value Imports . . . . . £389,774,549." It proceeds to add further to each side "gold and silver," &c., alike exported and imported. I strike them both off, as governed too largely by laws relating to the currency, and distinct therefore from other commodities; not to say that they balance one another within about £1,500,000, which would swell the bill for imports still further. Now, the two totals to be compared are those alone which are given above, and it will be thence found that the excess of imports closely touches £157,000,000 for the year 1884! The futility of adding as a distinct item "Foreign and Colonial" to the export side only is manifest. Being from such sources, we can only get them as "Imports;" then they ought to appear on the import side also, or on neither. But this is an evident but very shallow device to swell colourably the "exports" side. I further notice the damning fact that the excess of "imports" over these is per head of population nearly 85 per cent. greater in this last decade than in the previous, 1863-74.

There seems no doubt that of the £157,000,000 excess (1884) above stated the larger bulk are proceeds of investments in foreign loans, or profits and rents from British capital mounted on foreign soil and appearing as goods (American and Russian corn and French luxuries, &c.) in our markets; while, through the failure of our legitimate exports, our people are more and more pinched in providing the necessaries of life. I lately visited one of the large group of Lancashire factory townships, and found eleven mills running short time, including one wholly stopped. On the same day the news reached me of the spinners' strike at Oldham, to the number of 25,000, to resist the inevitable—a reduction of ten per cent. wages. Of the steel and iron trade, wherever I inquire the account is more gloomy still. I know something of what it was in Barrow-in-Furness in the winter 1883-4. I heard a similar account in Middlesbrough in November, 1884. It was bad, without prospect of mending. I believe there has been no recovery since. The great solid fabrics of industry seem dissolving, the highly organised and mechanised employments seem smitten with a creeping paralysis. The large bulk of this balance of our seeming imports are so many results of capital that has fled the country and is devoted to expanding the industries of our rivals. The cosmopolitan millionaire owns no allegiance save to the largest percentage for investments. Thus colossal fortunes go on swelling, taking every advantage of both sides—the prohibitive tariffs abroad, the low wages in Belgium and Germany, the long hours of labour there, and, on the other hand, the home market open to all. They stimulate the competition which undermines our handicapped industries, and they finance the foreigner to undersell us. These lords of foreign investments and capitalists "unattached" are living on the decline of the nation's best interests—on the slackened loom, silent forge, and blown-out furnace. Their balances mount up, while the pockets of those who should thrive by the industries which they supplant are emptying. The larger bulk of that adverse balance of imports are trophies of the successful invasion of our markets by our rivals. The larger bulk of our emigrant population are captives, taken as in war, led in triumph by the victor across the seas in the competitive struggle, in which, by our own fatal policy, we are hopelessly worsted.

But our exports disclose when examined a yet more sinister feature. The exportation of coal and fuel, together with steam-engines, machinery, and tools, has more than doubled in fourteen years. In 1869 these items were valued at just over £10,500,000. In 1883 they stood at just under £25,000,000. Foreign markets, that is, are refusing, in a proportion steadily increasing as compared with the amount of trade done, the results of our machinery and of the fuel that feeds it, and insist on taking in a like proportion that machinery and that fuel itself, which shall make them yet more independent of our products prepared by means of it, and more speedily able to cripple our industries yet more severely. There can be but one result of this tendency, and so long as our present fiscal system continues there is no prospect of reversing it. The longer that system continues, the more we are helplessly bound to surrender the only things which the foreigners will take; and the larger our surrender of these, which form the vital stamina of our productive energies, the more hopelessly will the depletion of those energies progress. Thus, when we look below the surface, we see that, in exports as well as imports, we are being worsted along the whole line of competitive industry. The capital has gone abroad in volumes, the very pick of our working population is emigrating in shoals, and the manufacturing plant and implements which should have furnished that capital the means of supporting and retaining those hands at home are following in the same train.

And the baneful fiscal policy which is thus slowly eating out the heart of industry is founded on the practical falsehood that the highly complex, artificial, and ever-shifting system of commerce can be ruled absolutely and permanently by a single principle—and that a negative one, "Thou shalt not levy duties"—applied, by necessity of the case, to *one* side only of that exchange which has *two* sides. To assume so to deal with the world of commerce is to fly in the face of the teaching of universal nature, that every organisation must be adapted to its surroundings. Our *doctrinaires* will have none of this simple teaching. While all things human are in a flux around them, their doctrine must stand like "the law of the Medes and Persians, that altereth not." They go on crying, "Open, Sesame," while every door of commerce is shutting faster and surer in their face. To adapt to circumstances is not for them, but to maintain a theory in defiance of circumstances. They will still go ahead on the same tack, heedless that the keel is already grating on the shoal. Perish India, perish manufactures and agriculture; only let us have the consolation that the illustrious patients drooped and died according to the strictest rule of medical orthodoxy. The blindest bigotry of outworn Toryism is matched by the sublime indifference and resolute pertinacity of the (so-called) "Cobdenites."—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. H.

BRITISH CREWS IN DISTANT PORTS.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—Shut up in close forecastles, in foreign or colonial parts, without even the daily newspapers to read, the crews of British ships are often driven into drinking-shops, out of sheer weariness.

They specially value, at such times, a friendly visit from a clergyman or layman; and eagerly welcome books, magazines, and reading matter. We have recently had applications for large supplies of books, for the use of British crews at New Zealand, Yokohama, Palermo, Malta, and Lisbon, &c., and wish to send to each place about 2cwt. of books. Prayer-Books are specially asked for, and healthy literature, of which our stock is exhausted.

May I ask for boxes, hampers, sacks and parcels of books and magazines to be sent, carriage paid, to the Missions to Seamen, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand, London, W.C.?

Yours faithfully, WM. DAWSON,
Commander R.N. and Secretary,
The Missions to Seamen, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The German musical journals are congratulating themselves on the national character of the past year's record in the celebrated Stadttheater of Leipzig, which is under the direction of Herr Max Stägemann. During the operatic season there were 245 performances, of which Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, and Wagner alone furnished ninety-two. Nessler's latest lyrical work, *Der Trompeter von Säkkingen*, was played forty-nine times; and Weber's revived *Silvana* had thirteen representations; besides which the minor composers of modern Germany provided a fair proportion of the repertory.

Messrs. Cassell and Co. will, at the end of the present month, commence the issue of a new edition of their *Gleanings from Popular Authors*. Part I. will be accompanied by a large engraving of the drawing by Sir John Gilbert, R.A., entitled "Joan of Arc."

The manufacture of solid carbonic acid gas has been carried on for some time by a company at Berlin. Bottles of steel containing eight kilos of liquid carbonic acid are sold. From these, by allowing the liquid to escape into a cloud-vessel, a quantity of solid acid is obtained which, by pressure into a wooden tube with a wooden piston, can be kept in the form of a small cylinder for a considerable time. A cylinder of about 1¼in. diameter and 2in. long will take five hours to melt away into gas. The more it is compressed the longer it will last as solid.

M. Chevale, the *Illustrated Science Monthly* says, has introduced an apparatus for measuring the proportion of carbonic acid in coal-gas, more simple and sensitive than that of Orsat. It consists of a test-tube, on a stand, containing a known quantity of caustic potash. The top of the tube communicates with a graduated tube, which dips into a vessel of coloured water. After having driven out the air from the test-tube and filled it with gas, the tap is closed, and the gas is allowed to stand for fifteen or twenty minutes. The carbonic acid will be absorbed by the caustic potash, and so cause the water to rise in the graduated tube, the graduation on which will indicate the degree of impurity of the coal-gas. A similar arrangement provides for the estimation of hydrocarbons absorbed by bromine.

The thirty-ninth report of the Commissioners in Lunacy has just been issued. The number of lunatics, idiots, and persons of unsound mind on the 1st of Jan. was 79,704, showing an increase of 1,176 on the preceding year; but this total does not include 245 lunatics so found by inquisition and residing in private houses under the immediate care of their committees, nor 75 male prisoners detained in the wards of convict prisons. Of the total, 79,704, 7,751 were private patients (3,950 males and 3,801 females), 71,215 were paupers (31,333 males, and 39,882 females). The usual elaborate tables are given, and some fresh tables have been added showing five or six years' summaries of certain tables appearing year by year in previous reports. The change in the law as to the maintenance of criminal lunatics has suggested the expediency of carrying back the same three-fold classification into the summaries relating to past years, and accordingly this has been shown for twenty-seven years back. It appears that in county and borough asylums the recovery rate, for both sexes taken together, is rather lower than the average of the ten preceding years, though the females taken separately show a higher rate; and the death rates are also slightly lower than the same average. The Commissioners rightly make complaint as to cases where the accommodation and arrangements are unsatisfactory or are tardily provided.

A correspondent of *Le Figaro* has compiled some interesting statistics as to the total number of newspapers and other periodicals published in every part of the world, and he brings the total number up to 35,000, thus giving one to every 28,000 inhabitants. Europe, according to his calculations, has 20,000 newspapers, Germany coming first with 5,500, of which 800 are published daily, the oldest being the *Post Zeitung*, published at Frankfort in 1616, while the one with the largest circulation is the *Berliner Tageblatt*, which prints 55,000 copies. Great Britain comes next with 4,000 newspapers, of which 800 are published daily, while France has 4,092, of which 360 only are daily. Italy comes fourth with 1,400 newspapers, of which 200 are published at Rome, 140 at Milan, 120 at Naples, 94 at Turin, and 79 at Florence, the oldest being the *Gazetta di Genova*, first published in 1797. Twelve hundred newspapers are published in Austro-Hungary, of which 150 are daily, the most remarkable of the Austrian journals being one called *Acta Comparationis Literarum Universarum*, which is a review of comparative literature, with contributors in every part of the world, each of whose articles is printed in its native tongue. Spain has about 850 journals, of which a third are political, and Russia has only 800, of which 200 are printed at St. Petersburg and 75 at Moscow. Several of these journals are published in three different languages, and there are also four published in French, three in German, two in Latin, and two in Hebrew, besides several others in Polish, Finnish, Tartar, and Georgian. Greece has upwards of 600 newspapers, of which 54 appear at Athens, while Switzerland has 450, and Holland and Belgium about 300 each. There are 3,000 journals published in Asia, of which no fewer than 2,000 appear in Japan, but in China the only newspapers not published by residents at the Treaty Ports are the *Ning-Pao*, an official journal published at Pekin, the *Chen-Pao* and the *Hu-Pao*, published at Shanghai, and the Government journal which was brought out in Corea last year. There are three newspapers published in French Cochin-China and one in Tonquin (*L'Avenir du Tonkin*), the rest of the newspapers credited to Asia appearing in India, with the exception of six, which are published in Persia. Africa can boast of only 200 papers, of which 30 appear in Egypt and the remainder in the Colonies of England, France, &c. The United States possess about 12,500 periodicals, of which 1,000 are published daily, the oldest being the *Boston News*, which was first published in 1794. Among the United States journals there are no fewer than 120 edited and published by negroes, the oldest of these being the *Elevator*, which was brought out at San Francisco about 18 years ago. Canada has 700 newspapers, a considerable proportion of which are published in French, and in South America the Argentine Republic comes first with 60 newspapers. Australia has 700 journals, nearly all published in English, and the Sandwich Islands eight, of which five are in English and three in the native tongue. Out of the 35,000 periodicals enumerated above, 16,500 are in English, 7,800 in German, 6,850 in French, 1,600 in Spanish, and 1,450 in Italian.

The important manuscript known as the Calton-Alleyne Agreement of 1605, stated as lost in the 1881 catalogue of the documents belonging to Dulwich College, by which agreement Edward Alleyne obtained by purchase the large estate with which he subsequently endowed his "College of God's Gift," has just been most unexpectedly restored to the College strong-room. Mr. T. C. Noble, who, in *Notes and Queries*, has described the history at length of this famous document, found that it had been sold by public auction, in March last, to a bookseller, who was the agent of Dr. Hanwell-Phillips, the Shakespearian scholar. Upon Mr. Noble making known to the Doctor that the manuscript belonged to the College, that gentleman generously restored it to the Foundation.

The restorations of the Ducal Palace at Venice are, says the *Builder*, proceeding—as do most restorations there—with great deliberation. To judge by results, however, this is a fault on the right side. The celebrated cap at the south-west angle, and the pier supporting it, have been replaced and coloured with so much adroitness that it requires very close examination to detect it. The façade next the Piazzetta, which has been for some time free from scaffolding, is a marvel of skilful restoration. The river façade at the east end is now undergoing the same careful treatment. The shoring used to sustain the building whilst the defective piers and caps on the ground stage are replaced is very ingenious. The restoration works are open to visitors at certain hours. Many of the old caps are badly crushed, and it is a matter for wonder that one or two which have been placed in the courtyard have not succumbed before. The opposite rule seems to hold good in St. Mark's, where the pavements, especially under the restorer's influence, are rapidly losing their old charm of colour. Bit by bit the scaffolding is being removed both from the interior of the loggia and the exterior, and what is revealed—after looking at the mellow tones of the old work—appears hard and garish to the eye.

The third annual report of Major Cole, the curator of ancient monuments in India, shows that important work has been done during the year 1883-4. He has made long journeys, visiting most interesting ruins and monuments, and giving advice or superintending the measures necessary for the preservation from destruction of the ancient monuments over which he is placed in charge. Major Cole adds to his report certain weighty remarks upon the value of Indian archæology apart from its influence upon the elucidation of the early history of the country. Archæology, he shows, has its uses bearing upon the architecture and art of the nation, and these in India are being very largely modified by European influence. "Natives of India," he says, "for centuries the most conservative of people, are now aspiring to adopt English customs, whilst neglecting many of their own. I remember Amravati Seshya Sastri, C.S.I., telling me at Kombaconum, in February, 1881, that a temple architect in Madras is scarcely to be found. The people replaster and repaint their own fanes, but when it comes to building a new one, those who in old days would have produced a suitable plan are either in the service of our Government as engineering draftsmen or busy misrepresenting Gothic or Renaissance. A rich Seth of Muttra wanted some years ago to build a temple, and although Muttra was in ancient times the centre of Hindu architecture, he had to send to Madras for a plan, the result being an inferior interpretation of Dravidian art. The Maharajah of Punna has built himself in Bundelkhand a temple like St. Pancras Church in London, and Scindiah and Holkar have a hankering for Indo-Italian palaces." And he shows that while holding itself perfectly neutral in all matters pertaining to religion, the Government provides for the education of natives in the languages which are intimately connected with their various faiths. And further, when mosques or temples are built, it interferes to the length of providing for public health and safety. "Why," he asks, "should not public taste be considered as well?" Thus he is led on to the conclusion that "an accurate representation of Indian architecture is wanted for architectural students." In this way he would have natives learn better their own styles of architecture, and this would remedy the chaotic state of the native mind on this subject, which has "produced a mixed architecture over India, which every cultivated taste must regret."

THE "APOCALYPSE OF EVIL."

The Archbishop of Canterbury has written the following letter to a friend:—

Lambeth, Aug. 10.

My dear ——, -You ask me whether I have expressed approval of the recent action of the *Pall Mall Gazette* with regard to the questions which have been occupying so much attention.

I have expressed no such approval.

The subject is a difficult one. From the best information which could be obtained, there certainly was reason to believe (whatever be the view now advanced in condemnation of the recent agitation) that without some public movement the Bill would not, as a matter of fact, have become law this year, still less that it would have contained some of the valuable provisions now added to it.

But none the less did I, from the very first moment, strongly deprecate the modes of inquiry adopted in some instances by those who conducted what they describe as "a necessary investigation," and I have never concealed my disapprobation of them.

With respect to the dissemination of this literature, it has been needlessly forced upon the attention of many whose assent or dissent was of no importance to the decision, and some of whom may be, I fear, the worse for the knowledge.

The editor of the journal in question has been aware from the first of my views on each of these points, and he has frankly acknowledged it. I now earnestly trust that he will himself feel that there can be at least no need for further publication.

When, however, he was charged with having deliberately presented to the public statements which had little or no foundation in fact, I felt it impossible, in common fairness, to refuse his appeal that I, with others, should allow him to lay before us the facts on which his allegations were based.

We declined to hear names of persons supposed to be implicated, on the simple ground that the existence or non-existence of a system such as that described did not require for proof the names of its users, any more than the addresses of its customers are required to show that some emporium has a prosperous trade, and nothing whatever arose to indicate that any one class was more chargeable than another.

Let me add that the atrocious systems thus exposed are the natural sequel, soon or late, of what is called "ordinary immorality;" that, useful as the Act will be, they who have to inflict punishment will deter not by excessive severity but by certainty; and that there never was such a call as at this moment to parents, to clergy, to employers, to all places in any way capable of forming a vigilance committee, to recognise their various responsibilities.

Yours truly,

EDW. CANTUAR."

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. R. V. Barker, Vicar of St. Paul's, Preston, to Vicarage of St. Mark's, Lakenham, Norwich. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Norwich.

Rev. T. Bridge, Curate of Bishopstoke, Southampton, to Vicarage of St. George's, Poynton, Cheshire.

Rev. S. Burgess, Head Master of Guilsborough Grammar-school, to Rectory of Halse.

Rev. R. S Dobson, Vicar of Little Saling, Braintree, to Rectory of Little Leighs. Patrons, Mrs. Green and others.

Rev. R. Dunn, Rector of St. Mary's, Cricklade, to Rectory of Wanstrow, Frome.

Rev. J. R. Eyre, Incumbent of St. Michael's Hamlet, Toxteth, and Rural Dean, to be Hon. Canon of Liverpool.

Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher, Curate of Holy Trinity, Shrewsbury, to Vicarage of St. Andrew's, Wolverhampton. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

Rev. F. Flynn, to be Chaplain of the *Ajax*.

Rev. C. P. Ford, Curate of Bebington, Birkenhead, to Vicarage of Godley-cum-Newton-green. Patron, the Bishop of Chester.

Rev. E. V. Freeman, Curate of Exmouth, to Vicarage of West Anstey, near Dulverton. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Exeter.

Rev. G. Goodenough, to be Chaplain to the *Tamar*.

Rev. H. Holbech, to Vicarage of Welshampton. Patron, Mr. S. K. Mainwaring.

Rev. J. A. Jones, Vicar of Cundall, Yorks, to Vicarage of Hardwick, Herefordshire. Patron, Mr. T. J. Stallard Penoyre.

Rev. J. C. Jones, Curate of St. Nicholas's, Newchurch-in-Rossendale to Incumbency of St. Anne's, Edgeside Holm.

Rev. W. Kitchin, late Curate of St. Michael's, Handsworth, to be Chaplain on the Bengal (Calcutta) Ecclesiastical Establishment.

Rev. J. W. Longrigg, to be Chaplain to the *Serapis*.

Rev. A. W. Mason, Rural Dean and late Vicar of Dedham, to be Honorary Canon of St. Alban's Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. A. L. Palmes, Vicar of Bodmin, to be Prebendary of Kings in the Collegiate Church of St. Endellion, Cornwall. Patron, the Bishop of Truro.

Rev. F. R. Pearson, Curate of Holy Trinity, Southport, to Vicarage of St. Peter's, Fleetwood-on-Wyre.

Rev. H. F. B. Portman, Rector of Pylle, Shepton Mallet, to Rectory of Orchard Portman-with-Thurlbere and Stoke St. Mary.

Rev. D. Price, late Curate of St. Thomas's, Wigan, to Curacy of St. James's, Birkenhead.

Rev. H. Roberts, Chaplain of the Welsh Church, Chester, to Vicarage of Brymbo, near Wrexham.

Rev. C. E. Story, Vicar of Wealdstone, to Vicarage of Great Missenden, Bucks. Patrons, the Trustees of Cheshunt College.

Rev. A. V. Thornton, Rector of St. Mellion, to Rectory of Roche, St. Austell, Cornwall.

Rev. C. M. Vaughan, to be Chaplain to the *Shannon*.

Rev. R. F. Wills, Vicar of Chillington, Chard, to Perpetual Curacy of Cudworth.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF CARLISLE.—Rev. John Armand Sellar, to St. Mary's, Applethwaite.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.—Rev. Charles Alfred Jenkins, B.A., to St. Paul's, Derby.

OBITUARY.

July 31, at Hastings, the Rev. H. Law Cooper, Vicar of West Ham, Sussex, aged 58.

Aug. 6, at Ferndale, Tunbridge Wells, the Rev. Cecil Moore, aged 33.

Aug. 7, the Rev. William Comyns Berkeley, of Cotteridge Court, near Worcester, aged 75.

Aug. 9, at Arnside, the Rev. Charles Henry Gibson, Vicar of Gildersome, aged 49.

Aug. 10, at Beaconsfield, the Rev. Samuel James Bowles, Rector, late Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, aged 59.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Bishop of Worcester has, by a characteristic act of munificence, led the way towards a solution of the difficult question of clergy pensions, so far as his own diocese is concerned. He has expressed his desire to give two sums of £1,000 each to form the nucleus of a clergy pension and insurance fund for the archdeaconries of Coventry and Worcester. The beneficiaries will be clergymen holding livings or curacies in either archdeaconry, and the benefit will take the form of assistance towards the payment of annual premiums to the institution or company guaranteeing the pension or sum at death.

A garden *fête* was held on Wednesday at Mount Edgcumbe in aid of the Truro Cathedral Internal Fittings Funds, some 3,000 people being present. The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe and his family did all in their power to make the sales of work a success.

The *English Churchman* is informed that Her Majesty has requested the Bishop of London to postpone the institution of the Rev. R. Linklater to the vicarage of Holy Trinity, Stroud-Green, until further inquiries have been made.

St. Michael's Church, Highgate, was struck by lightning yesterday week. In consequence of the damage done notices were posted on Sunday stating that services could not be held.

Mr. James Maden Holt has resigned the Chairmanship of the Church Association.

The *Manchester Guardian* is informed that, with the sanction of the Queen in Council, an exchange has been effected in the patronage of St. Mary's Rectory, Manchester, and that of St. Mary's Rectory, Moston. The former, which has been in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Manchester since it was founded in 1756, has now been vested in the Bishop, and the latter, which has hitherto been in the patronage of the Bishop, will hereafter be in the gift of the Dean and Canons. By this arrangement the Bishop will have the patronage of the two oldest city churches in Manchester—St. Anne's and St. Mary's.

Sir James Parker Deane, Q.C., attended on the 6th inst. at the board-room of Queen Anne's Bounty-office, Westminster, and, under a commission from the Archbishop, prorogued the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury until Tuesday, the 3rd November, Mr. Hassard, the Archbishop's registrar, was present.

The Peterborough Diocesan Conference will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, October 14th and 15th, at Peterborough.

The Carlisle Diocesan Conference will take place on Thursday and Friday, September 24th and 25th.

The annual conference of clergy and laity of the diocese of St. Albans will be held at Chelmsford on the 14th and 15th of October. The subjects for discussion will be as follow:—"How the Church can best influence and maintain her influence over the young." "The duty of Churchmen in view of impending political changes to impress upon the minds of the people the true status and history of the Church." "The best way of utilising the services of clergy holding cures with small populations," and "What may be done to counteract the sceptical tendencies of much of the literature and scientific teachings of the day."

A meeting was held on Saturday of the Honorary Canons of St. Albans, when it was resolved to raise a sum of £15,000 to support a Curate Minor Canon, and establish a daily choral evensong in the Cathedral. The sad death of Canon Rewley was referred to, and memorials in the Cathedral to him and Archdeacon Grant were suggested.

There was a remarkable service at Ambleside on Saturday, called a "rush service." In former days the floors of churches were at this season strewed with rushes, and a special service was held in commemoration of this custom. There was a procession of children carrying rushes and flowers, and the church was strewn with rushes, and there were designs of crosses, crowns, and harps. Appropriate hymns were sung, and a sermon was preached by the Rev. Sir Lovelace Stamer.

The Rev. J. L. Fish, rector of St. Margaret Pattens, writes with reference to a statement concerning his and other churches in the City:—"According to it there is room here for a congregation of 450, while there is proper provision for 140 worshippers only, and no more. Though galleries are now generally disused, those in this church are filled at some weekday services, as are a number of chairs, so that a congregation of more than 450 is sometimes found in the church. I have no reason to complain of lack of worshippers on Sundays, save at the beginning of Matins—a service which some, I am sorry to say, are disposed to undervalue. Exception is taken, apparently, to the inclusion of officials and children in a congregation, but officials and children have a common heritage in a God to glorify and souls to be saved. If the usefulness of a church is to be gauged only by counting its congregation at times, the cry for destruction must be carried beyond the City limits."

We regret to learn that the Scripture Readers' Society for Ireland, to whose wide and valuable work we have referred on several occasions, is in a considerable difficulty owing to their resources being for the present unavailable through the failure of the Munster Bank. Captain James Kearney White, the indefatigable secretary of the Society, is making every effort and personal sacrifice so that the salaries of the numerous Readers shall be duly paid, and he has sent out an urgent letter to the various superintendents begging that all subscriptions not yet paid in may be forwarded on at once. Any aid vouchsafed will be gladly welcomed at this time, and an influx of donations will tend greatly to mitigate the deep anxiety which the unfortunate collapse of the Munster Bank has occasioned Mr. White, who has the work and welfare of the Society so much at heart.

"Old Mortality" writes:—"The Lambeth Vestry have given formal consent for a faculty to be applied for to carry out alterations at Lambeth Church. I hope this business will be closely watched. It will be remembered that by permission of the present rector 'the Pedlar's Window' was removed from its ancient position, and only after public indignation meetings had been held and the Press had remonstrated was its partial restoration effected. The proposed alterations may be harmless enough, but if they are not there are few men in Lambeth with means or inclination to oppose the faculty, and so I direct general attention to the matter in time. At the 'restoration' of the church in 1851 monuments, brasses, and pictures disappeared. It is to be hoped that a church dating from the *Doomsday Book* will be watched with much interest in future. The rector of Lambeth has just had to demolish a parish room he was erecting, because it obstructed the light of an ironmonger next door. The vestrymen understand that, but in the Pedlar's Window controversy showed that they knew little and cared less about the ecclesiastical antiquities of their ancient parish. The spirit of vandalism is abroad now; I see the ancient Mitre, in Fleet-street, dear to all antiquaries, has been turned into a modern whisky bar and renamed 'The Clachans'; the picturesque Lord Eldon's School in the Wandsworth-road has been converted into a coal-shop. I hope antiquaries will keep a jealous eye on St Mary's Church, Lambeth."

The Missions to Seamen chaplain for the shipping at Cardiff, the Rev. J. R. Phillips, F.R.G.S., has been instituted by the Bishop of Llandaff to the benefice of Llanfrechfa Upper in that diocese. This is the second chaplain of the Missions to Seamen at Cardiff who has received preferment at the hands of the diocesan authorities. During the five years Mr. Phillips ministered to seamen, he enrolled upwards of 2,000 captains, officers, and sailors, besides wives and children, as total abstaining members of the Missions to Seamen branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, and 73 as volunteer helpers for the promotion of godly living on board merchant ships.

Mr. Bruce Joy has received a commission to execute a recumbent statue of Bishop Berkeley, to be placed in the Cathedral of Cloynes, in Ireland.

In connection with the annual meeting of the Church of England Working Men's Society, a large number of the delegates communicated together on Sunday week at an early celebration in the crypt chapel at St. Paul's. At the High Celebration St. Peter's, London Docks, was crowded, and a sermon of great eloquence was preached by the Rev. C. N. Field, of St. Clement's, Philadelphia. The most striking service of the day was at St. Alban's, Holborn. The delegates walked round the church in procession, headed by their banners. A handsome new one was blessed in front of the altar by the Bishop of Southwell. Incense was used during the procession, and at the *Magnificat* the Bishop was censed. In his sermon, which was upon St. Matt. xvii. 19, 20, Bishop Ridding observed that the presence or absence of a dominant principle and purpose

marked the strong character from the weak, and then spoke of faith as the motive principle of Jewish and Christian religious power:—"Conscience is not dead even if it is bewildered. It has been bewildered by delusions. I could not define liberty, and when that holy name was invoked it could not answer, But licence is no liberty; it could not answer, It is no liberty when the strong oppress the weak and claim to do so as a right; it could not answer, Liberty is for all, and men may not pester nor molest the helplessness of women, and say that women's slavery is men's liberty. Conscience has been bewildered, and let ruffianism murder society under high-sounding names. Let us not bewilder it afresh. Let us not think that exceptional crimes of a few monsters of depravity, degraded out of manhood into satyrs by the jaded effeteness of years of unsatisfying dissipation, that these crimes are our enemy's main battlefield. Could these monsters be exposed as loathsome scarecrows they would have their due, and the world might look on and be satisfied; but it would not be the war. If wakened conscience stirs to real war it must be to a fresh Puritan revolt against vice, which is ruining its millions where crime destroys its tens. It must look at home. It must convert and strengthen its brethren. Will you, each of you, speak out like Christians to sinners about you, and strive faithfully to banish the words, the songs, the ideas of pollution from your circles? Will you plead with your neighbour not to be guilty of poisoning young girls' lives for his pleasure? Will you revolt against the hideous traffickers and their foul dens of miserable slavery? Will you organise confederacies to stop public indecencies and make the importunities of chartered libertines unpleasant to them? Will you restore purity to its place of honour among your sons of the rising generation, and ban the vulgar vice of stews as a bar to gentlemen's society, of whatever rank of gentlemen you are? Will you, who strike for sixpence, strike against tyranny in workshops and factories, claim that your sisters and daughters be treated with the respect due to them? Will you think whether men's selfishness does not drive their wives and daughters through poverty to keep their house by sin because the bread-winner has sold their bread for drink? Will you think whether homes are not degraded not only by the cost of rent, but by men's own neglect and want of thought for them and those they leave at home in them? Will you, every man, do your part openly and really as it comes to your heads? Will you ever speak for God? This sounds the least test—try it." In the evening there were sermons for the Society in a large number of churches; that of All Hallows', Southwark, by the Rev. A. Brinckman, giving a *résumé* of its history and progress. Altogether there were services or celebrations for the interest of the Society at nearly five hundred churches in town and country.

A meeting of the Church of England Purity Society was held on the 6th inst. at Prince's-hall, Piccadilly, for men only. Mr. George Russell, M.P., presided, and was supported by Mr. Stevenson Blackwood, C.B., the Bishop of Truro, the Rev. Canon Body, the Dean of Gloucester, Lord Mount-Temple, Mr. John Harvey (High Sheriff of Bristol), the Rev. Dr. Griffith, the Rev. J. Grant Mills (hon. secretary), and Lieutenant-Colonel Everett. The following manifesto of the Archbishop of Canterbury was distributed at the meeting:—

"It will not be possible for me to attend the meeting of the Church of England Purity Society on August 6, but I wish to be allowed to address a few words to you on the immediate work of our Society.

"Its objects are unchanged—namely (1) Purity among men; (2) A chivalrous respect for womanhood; (3) Preservation of the young from contamination; (4) Rescue work; (5) A higher tone of public opinion—but it has received fresh stimulus as a Society from what has lately happened; and its objects are already seen to be less negative than some had supposed. It has been already made known that I was unable to approve some of the modes recently adopted for obtaining a knowledge of certain facts, or of the indiscriminate diffusion of such knowledge.

"Nevertheless, all England is now in possession of facts said to have been well known. If so, the knowledge was certainly restricted. But, restricted or not, the time has already come to act upon it; and now it has been thrown on to us to consider at once what ought to be done.

"It has been brought out that there is a close alliance between voluptuous passion and brutish cruelty.

"Selfishness in this form soon reaches a condition in which it does not shrink from inflicting any amount of wrong, from spoiling the whole future of its victims, and from multiplying the number indefinitely. Moreover, it actively demoralises the parental and family instincts.

"The evil-doing is confined to no one class of the community.

"Its agencies are systematic and busy and bold, and have hitherto escaped the law. We recognise in this state of things certain well-known elements of the decline of nations in the past. The anxieties are alive, of Christians, of citizens, and of families. I cannot feel sorry that this meeting is held a little later than the main excitement. No solid efforts have been wanting in the Church to secure the objects which that excitement aims at, as to the improvement of the laws, and still more of their administration, and as to remedial measures. A demonstration like this is for the Church only an episode in its constant work. The refuges and homes, the persons and communities, and the amount of money devoted to the work as hitherto understood, are very numerous and large.

"Of late, few, if any, dioceses have omitted to place the subject of social purity in the forefront of their conferences and efforts. It is accordingly the duty of the Church now to convert to practical advance what might otherwise be a momentary horror not unmixed with danger; to sustain at a higher level any feeling which has been aroused; and to elevate and to deepen the general tone of the nation upon moral questions. Lest this should seem indefinite, I would say:—

"1. That it is the duty of the Society to extend its efforts, to enlist many, and especially young men, over the whole country in a chivalrous Christian League, to respect and protect womanhood, to keep themselves pure in feeling and language as well as in act, and to win as many as possible to the same resolutions; so that before long all laxness of language may be felt to be as much forbidden to the Englishman as lying is.

"To this end I cannot consider that much discussion of the actual topic can be necessary, any more than it has been required at any time to debate the disadvantage and the satisfaction of falsehood. At the present moment watchfulness is needed, lest recent events should themselves lead to undue freedom of speech.

"2. The Society ought to do its best in concert with the central vigilance committee to promote the formation of vigilance committees in all towns.

"The burden of working the law adequately is too great to be thrown wholly on the police, or to be left to single individuals.

"But I am much mistaken in the police if they would not be found ready, when supported by a good vigilance committee, and by a strong general tone in any place, to co-operate (as they have often done in praiseworthy ways) in all efforts for rescuing and reforming as well as for suppressing.

"The committee itself will pursue other and possibly more important lines of immediate action.

"Lastly, let me say to our Society that this work is only to be wrought in the highest and most effective way by the baptised and pledged Christian soldier in the name and strength of God and of His Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the Lord and Saviour of men.

"Edw. Cantuar.

"*Lambeth Palace, Aug.* 1."

DRESS IN HOT WEATHER.

There is nothing, says the *Daily News*, that looks cooler than some of the faint, pale shades of green so largely adopted this year. Dresses of pure white are doubtless pleasantly cool to the wearer, but to the gazer they intensify the sunshine almost as much as does the glare of a chalk cliff. Pure white has come into favour again this season as suddenly as it disappeared from fashionable places some years ago, when the world went partly mad over cream-colour. Very becoming to young and pretty faces, pure white should be avoided by those of turbid complexion or doubtful age. A woman who looks passably young in cream-colour may possibly look quite middle-aged in white. When the years have been "throwing white roses," to use the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table's pretty phrase, at a face, however, charming, the owner would do well to avoid the unfailing test offered by the proximity of a mass of white. Occasionally, however, the addition of a velvet collar and a similar admixture in the bonnet has a modifying effect. But these do not commend themselves as cool additions to any toilet. The very high, semi-military collars worn this season, though they have a certain style of their own, are always unsuited to the round, white neck of a girl, and in hot weather they have a painfully throttling aspect. Two extremes have prevailed this season—one, shown in these high collars, of covering the throat up to the ears and giving a stiff, jerky air to the movements of the head; the other, in cutting frocks very low in the neck and adding only a turn-down lace frill. Neither is pretty, and those are to be congratulated who preserve a happy medium by wearing a tolerably high collar with a little lace or the edge of a linen collar appearing just above it. Even black toilets can be made to look cool by managing that the transparence of such materials as canvas, grenadine, or gauze shall be draped so as to exhibit their quality of transparence. Too often both canvas and grenadine are laid flatly upon their foundation of silk or surah, and consequently they look heavy. If, on the contrary, the folds of the lighter fabric are gathered in groups so as to fall loosely upon the silk, the effect is quite opposite. Some of the coolest frocks seen this season have been made upon the model of ordinary sacking. The threads, however, have been of the finest wool, and though a certain roughness and coarseness have been have been preserved, as in the original, this is but superficial, and the fabric is both soft and light. On the other hand, some of the dresses that look most attractively cool are, in reality, both heavy and hot. The woollen laces are among these. Needing a silk foundation, as they do, these laces, when made up, form skirts whose weight is more than proportioned to the carrying powers of the generality of wearers. The weight of a woman's garments would fairly astonish many a man who thinks how cool these muslins and laces look, while he is simmering in a tweed suit. To be sure, his tailor puts enough padding in the shoulders to keep the lungs warm and well defended from any stray breeze that blows; but on the other hand, he is free from the dread incubus of skirts that weigh down his sisters, his cousins, and his aunts. Lady Harberton's divided garment has won many disciples during the present season, having been largely adopted as a substitute for petticoats by many sensible girls and women who can find out the good points in a well-abused garment, and do not condemn anything untried, knowing that the principle of adaptation holds good in dress as in the drama. But the timid beings who fear to enter upon the "spinning groves of change," and still adhere to the heavy petticoats that formed so large a part of their mothers' creed, must find a high temperature a thing very hard to be borne. . . . The light, transparent bonnets of this season are exactly suited to the present condition of the thermometer, though when first introduced, some two months back, when east winds blithely blew, they were probably responsible for some of those neuralgic affections in heads feminine anent which the *Lancet* has of late been uttering its moan, attributing them chiefily to hairpins. Starch is a bitter enemy of coolness, and forms one or the reasons why a white waistcoat is frequently a fraud upon its wearer's credulity. This item of dress is supposed to be cool, but the dreadful rattle in which it indulges for an hour or so on being first put on, before it gets again accustomed to the curves of its owner's figure (after a visit to the laundress), is sufficient to send a wave of heat over all who hear it. White waistcoats, to be as cool as they look, should always be new. Not that newness is by any means synonymous with coolness. New muslins and cottons are cooler than washed and starched ones, but new boots and gloves are, in very hot weather, enemies of the human race. A trifling annoyance becomes elevated into a very mountain of trouble when the victim is suffering from a tight new boot; and a small fault of child or servant is occasionally visited with an unduly forcible reprimand when the individual offended has just struggled into an eight-button glove, and then discovered that the join between the finger and thumb has become a rent. Abstract justice would reserve the expression of wrath for the maker of the glove, but human nature is even more human than usual in hot weather, and the nearest person is the recipient of what is some distant individual's due. It is therefore the duty of every one of us to keep as cool as possible, lest we be betrayed into an injustice.

INDIAN RAILWAYS.

The third annual report on Indian railways, prepared in India for presentation to the Houses of Parliament, is the most important yet issued. It deals with the year 1884-5, practically bringing details down to the 27th of May last. On the 31st of March the total extent of railways opened for traffic in India stood at 12,004 miles, of which 1,218 miles were completed and opened for traffic during the year. Of these, 6,906 miles are in the hands of companies, 4,434 miles are State lines, either Imperial or provincial, and 664 miles belong to native States. About 3,555 miles were under construction—963 by companies, 2,125 by the State, and 467 miles by native States. The total sanctioned mileage is 15,560 miles, or 1,270 miles more than at the date of the last report, showing that we are within measurable distance of the round 20,000 miles of railroad so long insisted on as one of the pressing wants of India. Taking the rupee at the conventional value of 2s., there is at present sunk in Indian railways over £155,450,000, of which £105,319,144 has been expended by guaranteed companies, £42,924,898 in Imperial State lines, £3,783,065 in native State lines, and £3,423,259 on assisted companies' lines.

The gross receipts during the year amounted to £16,066,225, compared with £16,389,381 in 1883, while the working expenses increased from £7,970,430 to £8,156,157. The net revenue in consequence only yielded £5 1s. 9d. per cent. per annum on capital outlay, against £5 13s. 6d. in 1883-4, or, excluding steamboat services and suspense items, only £5 5s. 4d., against £5 18s. 2d. The East Indian Railway earned £7 13s. 7d. per cent., despite the scanty wheat traffic; the guaranteed lines paid £4 16s. 9d. per cent.; the State lines £3 17s. 5d., and the native State lines £3 0s. 8d. per cent. Passenger traffic increased in point of numbers carried from 65,098,953 to 73,815,119, due, no doubt, to the lower fares introduced the previous year. The receipts increased from £4,606,905 to £5,070,754. The aggregate tonnage moved is wonderfully steady, considering the depression in Anglo-Indian trade, and the almost total stoppage for a time of wheat exports. The decrease is only from 16,999,264 tons to 16,663,007 tons, but the fall in receipts therefrom is much more serious—viz., from £11,288,861 to £10,565,941. Grain traffic alone shows a decrease of 499,037 tons, with a corresponding decrease of £613,868 in receipts. The total decrease in traffic applies to 18 out of the 45 items in the schedule. The Director-General considers the depression to be temporary, and in support of this view points to the satisfactory rally in earnings in the first three months of the current year. From the 1st to the 4th of April, 1885, the approximate receipts were Rs.4,84,78,594, against Rs.4,57,56,100 in the corresponding period of 1884, and Rs.4,66,29,530 in 1883. This is a satisfactory increase, even allowing for the additional 1,080 miles worked.

A very remarkable and significant table is appended to Chapter I. giving a forecast of railway construction and outlay from 1884-5 to 1889-90. The Famine Commissioners thought an outlay of £2,800,000 per annum the maximum limit of expenditure on Indian public works, but it is now intended to spend on railways alone no less than £20,490,399 within the next five years, or over £4,000,000 sterling per annum. Nearly 30 separate systems are projected, of which six are for purely protective purposes. These will cost close upon £7,000,000 sterling, so that the £10,000,000 sterling asked for in the current Indian Loan Bill is already more than swallowed up.

Some interesting details are given of the progress made with the Scinde-Pishin, better known as the Quetta, or Candahar line. The history and object of this important stategic link are too well known to need recapitulation. Resanction was given for the construction of the works in July, 1881, and certainly every effort has been made to make up for lost time. The whole route has been blocked, and, not only to Quetta itself, but to Shebo, a point considerably further north on the direct route to Candahar. Leaving Sibi, the line makes a wide detour, sweeping many miles north of Quetta. At the angle of the curve branches off what we may regard as the nucleus of the future line to Candahar. The report bears ample evidence of the tremendous efforts put forth to lay the track during the recent crisis. The whole 254½ miles was blocked out into sections. A gang was set to work on each, so that now we have a line nearly completed at some points, and but crudely sketched out at others. Last November the Secretary of State for India stated that the line could not be completed before 1888, but circumstances have changed wonderfully since then, and the opening is now looked for two years earlier, by August, 1886. Since this forecast was made some heavy floods have threatened serious delay. On the Nari Division, the 149 miles immediately adjoining Sibi, all the rails have been laid. The girders of the Tundoorie-bridge have been erected. All the culverts are finished, but unfortunately the landslip at the Nari tunnel has much delayed operations. On the Babeh Kutch Division, the masonry of the four bridges is practically complete. The next section, known as the Gundakin Duff Division, is a most important one, as it contains two tunnels and three large bridges. The line is reported as practically complete, and all the culverts are ready for girders. The main tunnel is cut half through. Most of the bridges are built with Portland cement, as it would not have been practicable to get sufficient stone in time for the whole. During the hot weather it was contemplated to carry on platelaying at night by means of the electric light. In the Spintangi Division four miles of the road skirts a river, and a good deal of work is necessarily required in the way of spurs, revetments, &c., which consist of wire gabions filled with boulders, which, it is hoped, will resist the river's action. The 17½ miles of the Harnai Division were only commenced in January last, but practically all the earth work is cleared. Much trouble has been experienced at the Harnai-bridge, the one centrifugal pump at work being unable to cope with the water. The Sharigh Division is reported as a very heavy one. A firm of contractors from Kurrachee have undertaken to complete the bridge work by July. There are two heavy bridges in the Panji defile, each with a span of 100ft. They run from 40ft. to 50ft. above the bed of the nullah, with grades of 1 to 45. In the Chuffar, or second last section, 235 miles from Sibi, there are six tunnels, which, it is hoped, will be fully excavated by November, 1885. There is also a high level bridge across a rift, consisting of two spans of 150ft. each, and a central opening arched or crossed by 40ft. girders. From Gurkhai to Quetta, 32½ miles, the line has been staked out, but no work has been commenced. This section of the work, however, is not nearly so heavy as that demanded by the rest of the line. On reaching the Gwal valley, just beyond Gurkhai, all the really heavy work ceases. It appears, therefore, that at a pinch the Quetta line could be put into working trim much sooner than at present contemplated. The principal difficulty lies in getting up the iron materials for the bridges, which the line itself must convey section by section.

The report on works in progress on the various commercial lines is interesting. On the East Indian good progress has been made with the Hooghly bridge—a work which will much benefit the wheat trade of India. During the year 202½ miles have been laid, with the additional sleeper, bringing the total length so treated on this line to 1,816 miles. Some important projects in connection with the South Indian have been investigated, and the Calicut extension on the Madras Railway has been sanctioned.

CHOLERA: ITS CAUSE & PREVENTION.

Professor Burdon Sanderson contributes to the August number of the *Contemporary Review* a very important paper on cholera. He strives to avoid subjects of controversy, regarding it as of much more importance than those notions as to the cause and nature of cholera, about which there is no dispute, should be generally understood, than that the claims of rival investigators should be vindicated. Having given a concise history of the disease in its native home, India, and set forth the circumstances which led to its escape into Europe, Dr. Burdon Sanderson proceeds to the consideration of its pathological nature. He has no difficulty in reaching the conclusion that cholera, like other epidemic diseases, owes its power of spreading to a living and self-multiplying organism; a belief so well founded that he at once proceeds to inquire—first, where this self-multiplication takes place; and secondly, how it is brought about. As to the first question, he states the more general view:—

"No one has as yet been able to find the disease-producing organism (call it x) either in the blood or in any living tissue, notwithstanding that the research has been conducted with every possible care. Nor has it been found either that the bodies of persons affected with cholera, or that any part of them, possessed the power of infecting other healthy persons. Consequently, the opinion first arrived at and formulated by Professor Pettenkofer has come to be very generally adopted—that in cholera the multiplication of x takes place, not in the tissues of the sick person, but in his environment. This means that when the cholera x invades a previously uninfected locality in which it is about to become epidemic, the first thing it does is not to find a home for itself (as the x of small-pox, of cattle-plague, or of splenic fever would do) in the body of some healthy person, but to sow itself in *whatever material at or near the surface is fit for its reception and vegetation*. Now, although cholera may be repeatedly introduced by personal intercourse into an uninfected locality without result, it finally, after a shorter or longer latency, bears fruit; and this we explain on the hypothesis that, of the two conditions which are essential to the fructification of the germ—namely, the presence of the organism itself and the presence of a soil suitable for its growth—the latter is of more importance than the former; that, in short, the reason why a given town or country remains exempt from cholera is not that the seed of infection fails to reach it, but that those local conditions which are necessary for its vegetation are wanting. If we call the environment y, then the cause of cholera is not $x+y$, but xy, so that whatever value we assign to x, the product disappears as y vanishes. If the cholera organism multiplies in the soil, not in the individual, it must, in order to exercise its disease-producing function, attack the human body by one of two channels, either by air or food; it must be taken in either by breathing or swallowing, for the skin has so little power of absorption that it need not be considered. It seems to be extremely probable that in either case x enters the organism by the same portal—namely, by the process of intestinal absorption; that is, by the same channel by which the nutritious part of our food is assimilated—*i.e.*, that even if it were introduced by the breath, it would still act by localising itself in the alimentary canal. Consequently, if we want to engage in the search for it, there are two places where we should expect and seek to find it—namely, first in the soil; and, secondly, in the intestine of infected persons. Hitherto attention has been exclusively given to the investigation of the absorbing apparatus of the alimentary canal as the spot in which x would be likely to be caught, as it were, *flagrante delicto*."

Dr. Burdon Sanderson next refers to various inquiries conducted on these lines, and particularly to the investigations of Dr. Koch.

"Dr. Koch's statements at once assumed a very great importance, because they appeared to afford support to a doctrine with which they have no necessary connection—namely, that of the communicability of cholera by direct personal intercourse with the sick. The mere fact of the existence of countless myriads of organisms of a particular form in the intestinal liquid, although very interesting in itself, affords no evidence that they are the culprits, unless two other things can be proved respecting them—namely, that they possess the power of producing cholera wherever they exist, and that they are capable of maintaining their life, not merely within the intestine, but also in the soil; for, as we have

seen, the evidence that the material cause of cholera is capable of existing outside of the body and of spreading over the world independently of the presence of persons affected with the disease, is so conclusive that no explanation of cholera can be accepted which does not take this into account. The finding of the Special Commission of Her Majesty's Indian Government was that although Dr. Koch was perfectly accurate in his statement of fact, he had gone too far in inference. In other words, that although the so-called cholera bacillus swarms in the intestine of every person affected with cholera, it does not there play the part which is attributed to it."

The paper concludes with an indication of the way in which the knowledge and experience already obtained as regards the cause of the spread of cholera by the two available methods of inquiry—the epidemiological and the bacteriological—may be brought to bear on practical questions. Hitherto the investigation of the latter has been by far the most successful. But the apparent failure of Dr. Koch should not discourage other workers.

"The discovery, when made, will not only serve as a key to the understanding of cholera as a disease, and thereby tend to render its treatment a little less hopeless than it is at present; but it will serve as the necessary completion of the knowledge we have gained from the combined experience of the medical profession in India, in Europe, and in America, with reference to the behaviour of cholera as an epidemic disease. To make this clear, all that is necessary is to summarise statements already placed before the reader. What we have learned is that the liability of a locality to cholera depends, first on the physical characters of the soil; and secondly, on certain changes which it undergoes in the course of the seasons. The peculiarity of the soil which favours cholera is unquestionably want of natural or artificial drainage, combined with the presence in the liquid with which it is soaked of such organised material, derived from the tissues of plants or animals, as render it a fit soil for the development and vegetation of microphytes. The seasonal change which favours cholera is that which expresses itself in the drying of such a soil under the influence of summer temperature. In Europe this takes place in July, August, and September, in which last month cholera attains its maximum of destructiveness. But these two liabilities of time and place do not explain everything. No combination of soil and season, however favourable, will produce a harvest unless the seed has been sown. Notwithstanding the overwhelming evidence which now exists in proof of the harmlessness of the so-called 'rice-water evacuations,' it is not the less certain that the mechanism by which the infection of soil takes place (*i.e.*, by which the disease from being epidemic becomes epichthonic is its contamination by the discharges of sick persons. For there is no other possible way by which the soil can acquire the morbific property which facts compel us to attribute to it. Similarly, it may be regarded as absolutely certain that the influence of the soil on those who are infected by it is due to the penetration into their bodies of infective material, either by respiration or swallowing; that, in the absence of proof of 'cholera dust,' it is a matter of urgent necessity to avoid the use of water which contains such material as from its chemical nature may be reasonably considered capable of harbouring infective microphytes."

Experience has led people, both here and in India, to act as these teachings of science indicate. Probably London will have no visit of cholera this season. If it had intended to attack us, it would already have been on the way.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Royal Family and the members of the Household attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday. The Bishop of Ripon officiated. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince George of Wales and the Princesses of Wales, visited the Queen. The Bishop of Ripon dined with Her Majesty and the Royal Family.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with their family and a party of friends, will on the 20th inst. embark in the yacht *Osborne* for a visit to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. The Royal party will proceed to the south-west coast of Norway, and then to Gothenburg, where the Prince of Wales will land for a shooting tour in Sweden. The Royal party will be received here by King Oscar and his four sons, who will participate in the hunting. In the meantime the Princess of Wales and her daughters will proceed to Copenhagen on a visit to her parents, and she will be present at the opening of the English church there in the second week of September.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The interesting ceremony of the crowning of the Rosière will take place to-day (Saturday) at half-past four o'clock, at the Albert Palace, Battersea-park. This is the tenth anniversary of the crowning of the Walworth Rose Queen, who is selected for this honour from among the parishioners of the Rev. Father Nugee on account of having distinguished herself above her fellows by her industry and good character.

Mr. Ruskin is still in a very precarious state, his illness having completely prostrated him; but Dr. Parsons, who is in constant attendance, in his bulletin on Thursday says:—"Professor Ruskin's condition, although still very serious, has slightly improved." The doctor is hopeful that his patient has taken a permanent change for the better.

We regret to announce the death at Hickleton Hall, near Doncaster, on Saturday morning, of Viscount Halifax, after a short illness, in his 85th year. The late Charles Wood, Viscount Halifax, of Monk Bretton, county York, in the peerage of the United Kingdom, was the eldest son of the late Sir Francis Lindley Wood, Bart., by his wife, Anne, daughter and co-heir of Mr. Samuel Buck, of New Grange, Leeds, and was born December 20, 1800. He was educated at Eton and Oriel College, Oxford, at which University he obtained a double first-class degree in 1821, and took the degree of M.A. in 1825. In the following year he was returned to the House of Commons for Great Grimsby, which he represented in two Parliaments, and for Wareham in 1831. He sat for Halifax from 1832 to July, 1865, and then for a short time sat for Ripon till his elevation to the peerage in 1866. He held a large number of offices in various Administrations. His large and varied experience in the conduct of public affairs rendered him a valuable member of the various Whig Ministries with which he was connected. The late Lord Halifax, in recognition of his distinguished public services, was nominated a Grand Cross of the Bath (Civil Division) in 1856. The deceased nobleman married, July 30, 1829, Lady Mary Grey, fifth daughter of Charles, second Earl Grey, K.G., a Lady of the Crown of India, and by her, who died July 6, 1884, he leaves surviving issue three sons and three daughters—namely, the Hon. Charles Lindley (his successor in the peerage), born in June, 1839, and married to Lady Agnes Elizabeth, only daughter of the Earl of Devon; Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Henry John Lindley Wood, and the Hon. Frederick George, married to Lady Mary Susan, third daughter of the late Earl of Crawford and Balcarres; the Hon. Emily Charlotte, widow of Mr. Hugo F. Meynell-Ingram; the Hon. Alice Louise, married to the Hon. John C. Dundas, M.P., and the Hon. Blanche Edith, married to the Hon. H. Lowry Corry. The remains of Lord Halifax were interred on Thursday afternoon in the family vault in Hickleton Churchyard. Amongst those present were Lord and Lady Halifax and their family, the Hon. F. L. and Lady Mary Wood, the Hon. Mrs. Meynell Ingram, the Hon. and Mrs. J. C. Dundas, Mr. Albert Grey (who represented the Queen), Lord Ripon, Mr. Childers, Mr. Stansfeld, Lord Devon, Lord Auckland, and others. One wreath on the coffin bore a card with the inscription, "A mark of true regard and respect from Queen Victoria."

Lord Iddesleigh, who was accompanied by Sir H. Holland, received at the Treasury on Wednesday morning a deputation composed of members of the Council of the Library Association, with reference to the disposal of surplus record publications to the public libraries of the kingdom. Lord Iddesleigh said he found that there were about 130 libraries established under the Libraries Act of 1850, and that the expense of supplying Parliamentary papers gratis to these would involve a charge of between £5,000 and £6,000, which would practically be a grant made by the Treasury without a vote being taken in the House of Commons. If, however, any arrangement could be arrived at by which the libraries could in return for the publications supplied, give valuable information to the Government, that would alter the position altogether; and he was not in despair of being able to make some suggestion in that direction.

By order of the House of Commons, there has recently been printed a return (No. 100) relative to the deaths of masters and seamen in the British merchant service reported during the year ending 30th June, 1883. This shows that of 4,954 such deaths, only one out of every five—viz., 1,039—arose from diseases or natural causes. Thus four deaths out of five recorded would have been coroner's cases had they occurred on land; but by a legal fiction, in the absence of the body no coroner's inquiry can take place. Three out of four men who lost their lives, or 3,696 men, are said to have done so by "accident" (?), of whom 2,500 men were drowned or killed in connection with wreck or other casualty to the vessel, and 1,196 died by others so called "accidents"(?). 156 deaths are attributed to unknown causes, 53 to suicide (?), and 10 to murder and homicide. Except as to the last named, and as to cases in which the loss of property was involved, there does not appear to have been any legal investigation, analogous to that of a coroner's inquest, into the cause of the loss of a single one of these 3,905 lives, whether it were ascribed to drowning or other means. As to those of the 1,039 recorded deaths alleged to have occurred by disease or natural causes at sea, no medical man certified as to the accuracy of the statements of the masters of vessels, by whom the mortality is ranged under about forty abstruse diseases. Of the 4,954 deaths recorded, more than one-half, or 2,666, were of men under thirty years of age. Many of the men died in years other than that in which they were reported to the Board of Trade. But no doubt as many deaths occurring in 1882-3 will be reported in succeeding years, so that, in this respect, the return is substantially correct. It contains, however, some of the deaths which occurred in British colonial ships; also others which took place on shore abroad, after the discharge of the men from British ships; and a few deaths under similar circumstances ashore in the United Kingdom. It is therefore evident that as a record of the mortality of British seamen, the return is very incomplete; that it cannot be referred to any given number of living men; and that no comparison can be drawn between this record and the tables of mortality for landsmen. The broad fact, however, remains that of the deaths of masters and seamen so recorded, four out of every five would have been coroner's cases had they occurred on land; and that no legal enquiry, save in the cases of murder and homicide, takes place as to who killed these 3,905 men who died under questionable circumstances.

A large garden party was held yesterday week by the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Lainson, in the grounds at Colley Manor, Reigate, to meet the Rev. Dr. Edghill, chaplain-general to the forces, to hear from him and other speakers the great existing necessity of enlarging the present buildings of the institute at Aldershot, in order to provide a suitable place where the soldiers can profitably and pleasantly spend their leisure time, where they may study, read, write letters, hear music, and, beyond these advantages, where they may see their chaplain and officers, and profit by their association and advice. Such a place is sorely needed. At the close of the meeting a collection was made, which amounted to £118 16s. £5,000 is the sum wanted to carry out the buildings, the site for which has been paid for.

Great interest was taken in the baptism on Saturday morning, at St. George's, Hanover-square, of the infant son of Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M.P., which was solemnised by the Hon. and Rev. Albert Victor Lyttelton, soon after noon, in the presence of a few immediate relatives, but a large general congregation, mainly composed of the middle classes. The baby, whose christening robe was of old lace over silk with a satin sash, did not cry the least, though the water was thriced poured over its head copiously. Immediately the child had been signed with the cross, Mrs. Gladstone, the grandmother, who acted as proxy for Lady Louisa Egerton, gave the young Christian the first kiss. The godfathers were Lord Lyttelton and Mr. Henry Gladstone. The late Prime Minister looked far from well. Mrs. W. E. Gladstone wore a dress of dark purple blue and bonnet to match.

Prize day on the Thames Nautical Training College, Thursday, the 6th inst., attracted a numerous party of ladies and gentlemen to H.M.S. *Worcester*, off Greenhithe. The Earl of Northbrook presented the Queen's gold medal, annually awarded to the cadet on the ship likely to make the finest sailor, to Mr. S. J. Finch, who also received the superior metal sextant given every year by the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House to the winner of Her Majesty's gold medal. A naval cadetship was awarded to Mr. J. Savill, to whom the Queen granted a handsome binocular, bearing a suitable inscription, and a sum of £35 for outfit. Several valuable prizes were presented, and Lord Northbrook congratulated the committee and officers of the *Worcester* on the satisfactory reports of the examiners.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who was accompanied by Mr. Burdett-Coutts, on Tuesday laid the corner-stone of an addition to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Wood-green. A large company of ladies and gentlemen assembled to witness the ceremony, and a general meeting was first held in the gymnasium attached to the schools. Here Mr. A. F. Godson presided, and having briefly introduced the Baroness Burdett-Coutts as the president of the ceremony, he addressed the assembly upon the purpose of the new buildings, and explained that it was intended to begin a system of technical education in the schools under which the lads would be taught the handicrafts of printing and carpentering. The total outlay incurred by the erection of the new buildings was £19,457, of which over £13,000 had been obtained. The Baroness Burdett-Coutts said that she desired to express her approval of the plans so far as she understood them, and expressed the hope that they would completely promote the objects which were in view. Several ladies subsequently presented purses towards the cost of the new premises to the Baroness, and later on a procession was formed, consisting of Masonic officials, which proceeded to the portion of the premises where the additions were to be made. Here the Baroness spread mortar on the bed for the stone, which was laid with due Masonic ceremony, the usual deposits of coins and newspapers were placed in a phial by the treasurer of the institution, and after the inscription had been read and the plate had been fixed the Baroness struck the stone thrice and declared it well and duly laid. The secretary, Mr. Binckes, stated that the phial contained, by the request of the Baroness, a medallion of the late General Gordon, as well as copies of the *Times* and the Masonic papers, and added that the mallet with which the stone had been struck was the same tool with which Charles II. had laid the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral. The Baroness, in the course of an address, remarked that she would not dwell upon the inherent significances of the act which had just been performed, for they were well known. She desired, however, to indicate her reasons for placing a medallion of the late General Gordon in the phial. She had done so because she felt that he was a heroic Christian and a heroic soldier, who was actuated with the same motives of charity and good-will to man which governed the proceedings of the craft with which the institution was connected, and he had always exhibited, too, a great feeling of interest and care in everything that affected the welfare of boys in all conditions of life. The Baroness proceeded to remark that she was the only lady of the present generation who had ever been present at a lodge sitting, and she was therefore, perhaps, better acquainted than other members of her sex with the advantages of such an institution. She maintained that no Board-school could ever accomplish the results of the excellent system and habits of institutions which incorporated all the advantages of home life. A luncheon followed, at which the health of the Baroness was drunk.

Intelligence was received on Tuesday at Pontefract of the death at Vichy of Lord Houghton, of Fryston Hall. The news caused a profound sensation in the borough, which his Lordship represented in Parliament for a quarter of a century. His death will cause a vacancy in the candidature of the Barnsley Division of the West Riding, for which the Hon. R. O. Milnes (only son of the deceased) was the Liberal candidate. The Right Hon. Richard Monckton Milnes, D.C.L., F.R.S. (Baron Houghton), was born June 19, 1809, being the only son of Robert Pemberton Milnes, of Fryston Hall, Bawtry Hall, and Great Houghton, Yorkshire, by the Hon. Henrietta Maria, daughter of Robert, fifth Viscount Galway. Lord Houghton graduated M.A. at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1831. He was elected M.P. for Pontefract in 1837, and retained the seat till his elevation to the Peerage, August 20, 1863. He entered Parliament as a follower of Sir Robert Peel, whom he supported in his repeal of the corn laws; but afterwards joined the party of Lord John Russell. He declined to become a member of the Government of Lord Palmerston, but gave it his entire support. His attention in Parliament was mainly directed to foreign affairs and the reform of our penal institutes. He brought in the first Bill for the establishment of juvenile reformatories in 1846, and was the president of the great reformatory establishment at Rèd-hill. His Lordship was also the president of the Newspaper Press Fund. In 1873 he presided over the Norwich meeting of the Social Science Congress. Lord Houghton accepted in February, 1881, the nomination to the office of president of the London Library vacant by the death of Mr. Carlyle. He has written several volumes of poems, under the title of *Poems of Many Years, Palm Leaves*, &c., and many pamphlets—notably, *One Tract More*, in the Oxford controversy of the *Tracts for the Times*, and the *Real Union of England and Ireland*, advocating concurrent endowment of the Protestant and Catholic Churches. His last work was *Monographs, Personal and Social*, published in 1873.

His Eminence Cardinal Patrick Moran, Archbishop of Sydney, New South Wales, is a nephew of the late Cardinal Cullen, and was born in Ireland nearly 56 years ago, his mother being sister to the eminent Irish Churchman, and his father a prosperous land occupier. At the desire of his uncle he was trained for the priesthood, and after a few years spent at a diocesan seminary was, at the instance of Cardinal Cullen, sent to Rome, while still a mere youth, to pursue his studies at the Irish College, of which the Cardinal had been rector before his elevation to the Episcopate. At the Irish College, he was a distinguished scholar, and, at the *concursus* held yearly at the Propaganda for students in their last year of preparation for the priesthood at the various national colleges of Rome, young Moran carried away the gold medal for theology. He was ordained in Rome, and instead of returning to Ireland and his native province, that of Leinster, he was retained in Rome as one of the professors of the Irish College, of which he subsequently became vice-rector, while a comparatively young man. Twenty years ago he left Rome for Ireland to become secretary to Cardinal Cullen. While vice-rector of the Irish College he had been the frequent intermediary of communication between the Irish Episcopate and the Holy See, and was known as a devoted adherent of what was called the "Cullenite" policy. As secretary to the Cardinal Archbishop of Dublin he took a large share in the administration of the affairs of the Catholic Church in Ireland, but he continued his literary labours and the publication of their results. Between the years 1860 and 1874 he published several works—in addition to the writing, editing, and publication of which Dr. Moran, who had attained the dignity of the Roman prelature and the title of "Monsignor," contributed various papers to the Royal Irish Academy, and for many years edited and was the principal contributor to the *Irish Ecclesiastical Record*. In September, 1871, he was elected Coadjutor Bishop of Ossory, and on the 28th of December of the same year Pio Nono, by brief, confirmed the selection, and named him Bishop of Olba *in partibus*. The consecration did not, however, take place until the 5th of March following, when it was conducted at the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin, Cardinal Cullen being the officiating prelate, 11 members of the Irish Hierarchy and nearly 500 of the clergy being also present. In the following August, by the death of Dr. Walsh, the occupant of the see, the Coadjutor became Bishop of Ossory, and so continued until the close of the year 1883, when he was translated by Papal brief to the Archdiocese of Sydney. Since his accession to the Primatial See of Sydney he has taken considerable interest in the public affairs of Australasia. Cardinal Moran is the youngest of the five English-speaking members of the Sacred College. Of these, three—Cardinals Manning, Newman, and Howard—are Englishmen by birth and converts to Catholicism. Cardinal Newman, who is in his 85th year, is the oldest; next in seniority of years comes Cardinal Manning, aged 75; Cardinal M'Closkey (New York), of Irish parentage, 70; Cardinal Howard, and lastly Cardinal Moran.

The *Jewish Chronicle* says: "We are enabled to give a brief outline of the will of the late Sir Moses Montefiore. It was executed in January, 1882, and is of great length, occupying about twenty large folio sheets. The value of the personalty is between £350,000 and £380,000. Some of the investments have increased in value during the last few years, and it is provided in the will that the bulk of the investments shall be kept intact, but may, under exceptional circumstances, be transferred to Consols. The testament commences with a touching and characteristic expression of thankfulness to God for having preserved him with unclouded mind and cheerful spirits to his 98th year. He praises God for the mercy vouchsafed to him, and prays that the beneficent works which he was permitted to further may continue after his death. He directs that his funeral shall be conducted with simplicity and a careful avoidance of pomp. The executors are Lord Rothschild, Mr. Joseph Sebag, Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C., M.P., and Dr. L. Leowe, each of whom are to receive £1,000 besides other specific gifts. Mr. Joseph Sebag is the residuary legatee, and to him is bequeathed East Cliff Lodge, Ramsgate, with its appurtenances, grounds, and estate attached, consisting of about thirty acres, which are practically entailed, a proviso being added that if Mrs. Sebag should survive her husband she is not to be dispossessed. Failing direct heirs male to Mr. Sebag, the property is to pass to Mr. Arthur Cohen, Q.C., M.P., or his sons. The lease of the house in Park-lane, with its furniture, is left to Mr. Arthur Cohen, but the bulk of the pictures are reserved for the Judith Theological College, Ramsgate. To Mr. and Mrs. Guedalla is bequeathed the life interest in about £35,000; after their death half reverts to the estate and half towards endowing the Ramsgate Synagogue. The Judith Theological College adjoining is also largely endowed. Upwards of £30,000 are bequeathed to the congregational and charitable institutions in Jerusalem and the Holy Land, and about £15,000 to charitable institutions in London and Ramsgate, as well as some gifts to the churches of Ramsgate and neighbourhood. To the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation (the charities of which are largely benefited) is bequeathed £500, and to the United Synagogue £1,000. About £20,000 are absorbed in various personal legacies, the list of which is very long. Few, if any, of those to whom Sir Moses evinced affection or esteem during his lifetime are forgotten, but many have died since the will was made, although only three years have elapsed. Among the personal bequests are £5,000 to his niece (Miss Nellie Montefiore, daughter of Mr. Horatio Montefiore), £1,000 to Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Spielman (son-in-law and daughter of Mr. Sebag), £100 each to his many grand-nieces and grand-nephews, and £500 to the Chief Rabbi and Mrs. Adler. The names of Lord and Lady Hammond and of several clergymen also figure in the long list. All the bequests are left free of legacy duty. His horses and carriages are left to his coachman, and all his devoted, faithful servants receive annuities or legacies."

Messrs. Macniven and Cameron, penmakers, Edinburgh, have been awarded a medal at the International Inventions Exhibition, London, for their patents and improvements on pens and penholders.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited) 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

LATEST NEWS.

PARIS, August 14.

A telegram received here from St. Petersburg of to-day's date states that the Russian Government, in regard to the Zulfikar question, has despatched proposals to London to which the assent of the British Government appears certain.

ST. PETERSBURG, August 14.

The *Invalide Russe* to-day publishes a list of decorations which have been conferred upon officers and members of the medical staff belonging to the forces stationed in the Transcaspian territory, and upon several officers of the Merv Militia.

MADRID, August 13.

Considerable sensation has been caused here owing to the receipt of intelligence that Germany has occupied the Caroline Islands, a Spanish possession. The Spanish Government has addressed representations to Berlin on the subject, and has ordered two war vessels on the Philippine station to proceed immediately to the islands in order to protect Spanish interests.

Thirty-five cases of cholera and 31 deaths have occurred in the capital to-day, and 75 cases and 18 deaths in the province of Madrid, among the victims being the Director of Public Works. According to reports from Saragossa a slight improvement is noticeable there. On the other hand, intelligence from Granada states that the epidemic shows no sign of decreasing. Owing to the great scarcity of doctors, the local authorities have authorised medical students to attend the sick. Great difficulty is experienced in finding men to bury the victims, and in some instances bodies are stated to have remained a considerable time uninterred, the local officials being unable to attend to so many cases. The authorities at Madrid intend to take decisive measures in order to prevent the spread of the epidemic, and propose to pull down some of the old and overcrowded houses in the more populous quarters of the city where numerous cases of cholera have occurred. Later despatches from Seville announce that the agitation, owing to the proposed abolition by the Government of the sanitary measures adopted by the local authorities, has now subsided, and that quiet is restored.

August 14.

The official cholera bulletin published this morning shows that there were 3,935 cases and 1,389 deaths in Spain yesterday. The returns from Saragossa, however, are still incomplete.

BERLIN, August 14.

Intelligence received from Krementschug, in the Government of Poltava, states that serious disturbances occurred at that place on the 2nd and 3rd inst., owing to the violent attacks upon the Turkish inhabitants by the Russian populace. The military were compelled to intervene to restore order, and many of the rioters were wounded. Thirty arrests were made. A renewal of the disturbances was apprehended.

COPENHAGEN, August 14.

The betrothal of Prince Waldemar of Denmark with Princess Marie of Orleans, eldest daughter of the Duc de Chartres, was officially announced at Gmunden on the 12th inst.

The "Dilke Scandal" seems (says *Vanity Fair*) already to have become a permanent department of news with some of the papers, and the Tories appear to expect that it will be the end of Sir Charles Dilke's career, and to expect this with all the greater confidence since the publication of Sir Charles's own letter on the subject. I do not share these anticipations. My expectation, on the contrary, is that the affair will either be settled out of Court altogether, or else that, if it comes into Court, it will be so conducted as to cause the least possible scandal. My reasons are these:—This is in every sense a family quarrel. The principal parties to it are all connected by ties of relationship, and all the parties belong to the Liberal ranks. Sir Henry James, the counsel for Sir Charles, is a Liberal who has achieved a high position; Mr. Inderwick, the counsel for Mr. Crawford, is a Liberal who has three times fought constituences in the Liberal interest, and who is ambitious to achieve a high position; Mr. Crawford is a Liberal who was to have contested East Lanarkshire in the Liberal interest; and Mr. Eustace Smith is the Liberal Member for Tynemouth. Now Sir Charles Dilke is held by all Liberals to be of absolute necessity to their party. It is certain, therefore, that superhuman efforts will be made to avoid anything that would fatally discredit him and cause the Liberal party to lose the service of his undoubted talents. It is equally certain that the greatest pressure will be brought to bear upon everybody here concerned to do anything that can possibly be done to arrange the affair either without scandal at all or with as little scandal as possible; and, finally, it is no less certain that everybody concerned will only be too anxious to do anything humanly possible to bring about this result. From the chiefs of the party downwards, all will use their best exertions, and even Mr. Crawford himself may be expected to be ready to adopt any action in this direction which will at once save his honour and avoid for his party what would be regarded as a fatal disaster. What I expect to take place, therefore, is this. The case cannot come on until after the Long Vacation, nor even then until its turn arrives. It will probably, therefore, not come on at all at least for another six months. This will give time for passion to cool down, and for calmer feelings to take its place. Then will be the opportunity for family influences to come into play, for political influence to make its final effort, and for the wise adviser to step in with the calm and dispassionate voice of reason and prudence. The uncertainty of the law, the defects that attach to all evidence, and especially to evidence of the kind to be relied upon in a case of this nature, and the wisdom of rather adopting a certain settlement which will give all that is really desired, instead of entering upon an uncertain conflict which may, after all, give nothing, will be duly pointed out. These considerations will be reinforced by others of public policy; they will be strengthened by the readiness of everybody concerned to come to some arrangement; and it will be hard indeed if, with so many concurrent elements, the case is not brought to an end without the public disclosure of any of those more scandalous details upon which Sir Charles's political opponents are counting.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords met yesterday afternoon at two o'clock, and the House of Commons having been summoned to the Bar, the Royal Assent was given by commission to certain Bills, after which the LORD CHANCELLOR read as follows

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen—

I am glad to be able to relieve you from the labours of a session which has been protracted and eventful.

When you assembled in October last I informed you that an expedition was advancing up the Valley of the Nile for the relief of Khartoum. Three months later, with a deep sorrow, which was shared by all my people, I learnt that the Expedition had arrived too late, and that the heroic General Gordon and his companions had fallen. An endeavour, which was ineffectual, was made to reach Khartoum by constructing a railway from Souakim to Berber. My troops were ultimately withdrawn from the whole of the Eastern Soudan except Souakim, and from the Western Soudan down to Alashkert.

Although the objects of the Expedition have not been attained, I have great reason to be proud of the bravery and endurance which have been displayed by my soldiers and sailors, and of the skill with which they have been commanded.

I received with great pleasure loyal offers of military assistance in this campaign from my colonies, and from the native princes in India, and a contingent from the Colony of New South Wales served with distinction in the actions which took place on the coast of the Red Sea.

The death of the Mahdi will probably enable me to perform with less difficulty the duties towards the Ruler and people of Egypt which events have imposed upon me. I shall not relax in my efforts to place the government and good order of that country upon a firm foundation.

My relations with other Powers are of a friendly nature.

Difficulties which at one time were of an anxious character arose between my Government and that of Russia as to the limits of the territory of my ally, the Ameer of Afghanistan. Negotiations still continue, and will, I trust, lead, at an early period, to a satisfactory settlement.

The progress of events in South Africa has compelled me, in the interest of the native races, to take under my protection Bechuanaland and certain adjacent territories.

I am taking the necessary steps to place the north-western frontier of my Indian empire in a condition of adequate defence, in the absence of which the prosperity and tranquillity of my Indian subjects are liable from time to time to be interrupted and disturbed.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons—

I thank you for the liberality with which during the past year you have provided for the services of the country.

My Lords and Gentlemen—

I have had pleasure in giving my assent to a measure for enabling federal action in certain matters to be taken by the Colonies of Australasia; to a much-needed amendment of the Criminal Law; and also to a Bill for establishing a new Department for Scottish affairs. I have also been glad to concur in a measure for increasing the number of occupying freeholders in Ireland.

I notice with sincere gratification that an endeavour has been made by a Bill, to which I have assented, to diminish the evils of overcrowding and of insanitary dwellings, which hinder so seriously the moral and material well-being of the labouring classes.

I regret to say that the depression which has so long prevailed in many important trades and in the agricultural and manufacturing industries of the country still continues. I have directed the issue of a Commission to inquire into the causes of it, and to ascertain whether it can be alleviated by any legislative measures.

During the past Session your time has been principally occupied by the enlargement of the Electorate, and the extensive changes which you have, in consequence, made in the constitution of the House of Commons. I earnestly trust that these comprehensive measures may increase the efficiency of Parliament, and may add to the contentment of my people.

It is my purpose before long to seek their counsel by a dissolution of Parliament. I pray that the blessing of God may rest upon their extended liberties, and that the numbers who are called to the exercise of new powers will use them with the sobriety and discernment which for so long a period have marked the history of this nation.

A semi-official Note communicated to the Paris press states that the number of victims in the massacre of Christians which has just been perpetrated in the Annamite provinces of Binh-dinh and Phugen has been greatly exaggerated. It was first announced from Qui-Nhon that 10,000 Christians had been massacred; but it seems now certain that the number of victims does not exceed a few hundreds. That a few hundred human beings should have been slaughtered is terrible; but there is a vast difference between that number and 10,000.

The following is the letter written by the Rev Coker Adams to his erring parishioner, whom he had formally excommunicated, but who, at the request of the Bishop, has been restored to the full benefits of the Church.—"To Mr. Joseph Payne.—*Saham Rectory, August* 10.—Sir,—In accordance with the Bishop of Norwich's directions, I yesterday withdrew in church the censure pronounced on you a fortnight before. Your name is, however, still before the Bishop as that of one who neglects Christian worship and rejects the Church's ministers. I must now leave you to yourself, being debarred from all further attempts to call you to repentance, under present circumstances. My last words to you now must be, 'I pray you, in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.'—Yours faithfully, COKER ADAMS."

SOCIETY.

The marriage of the Crown Prince of Baden with the Princess Hilda of Nassau is to take place at the Castle of Hohenstein, the Austrian seat of the Duke of Nassau, about the end of next month.

A marriage is arranged and will shortly take place between Edith Gerard Hood, eldest daughter of Sir Charles and Lady Palmer, of Dorney Court, near Windsor, and Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Hollway, late of the 91st (Princess Louise's) Argyleshire Highlanders.

Also between Mr. G. H. Pritchard, late 43rd Light Infantry, eldest son of the Rev. Richard Pritchard, of Colleuna, Glamorganshire, rector of Newbold-on-Stour, and Miss Edith Hume-Smedley, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Edward Hume-Smedley, district judge of Kandy, Ceylon.

Also between Mr. John Peyto C. Shrubb, eldest son of the late Mr. John Lane Shrubb, of Boldre Grange, near Lymington, Hants, and May, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Sydney Burrard, late Grenadier Guards, and granddaughter of the late Rev. Sir George Burrard, Bart., of Walhampton, near Lymington, Hants.

On Tuesday last, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Frederic Henry Anson, eldest son of the Rev. Canon and Hon. Mrs. Anson, with Agnes Henrietta, younger daughter of the Right Hon. Sir T. D. Acland, Bart., M.P. The bride came with her father, and was received on entering the church by her six bridesmaids. The bride's dress was of white silk, the front being tastefully draped with Brussels lace, and having long loops of moiré ribbon on one side. She wore a wreath of real orange blossoms and myrtle, over which a Brussels lace veil was arranged, and her ornaments included a diamond and pearl necklace, her father's gift, and a diamond brooch. The bridesmaids were dressed in cream nun's veiling, trimmed with lace, and draped overskirts of cream lace, with long bows and ends of salmon-pink velvet ribbon on one side. They had small white tulle bonnets, beaded with pearls and trimmed with salmon-pink aigrettes, and carried small bouquets of cream and pink flowers. The two children, nieces of the bride, wore hats instead of bonnets. The bridegroom presented each with a gold brooch. Mrs. Hart Davis, sister of the bride, was attired in golden-brown satin, with panels of gold and brown broché velvet, and bonnet to match. Mrs. Acland wore a handsome dress of azalea pink corded silk, trimmed with brown velvet, and bonnet of pink and brown feathers. The Rev. P. L. Dyke Acland, M.A., vicar of Broadclyst, Exeter, uncle of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. R. H. Hart Davis, vicar of Dunsden, Reading, brother-in-law of the bride, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland giving his daughter away. The wedding party afterwards proceeded to Upper Belgrave-street, where the wedding breakfast was given. Early in the afternoon the newly wedded pair started for Poynton Towers, Dowager Lady Anson's residence in Cheshire, where they will spend the honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was of maroon cashmere and velvet, with bonnet to match.

The marriage of Annie, eldest daughter of Sir Percy Douglas, Bart., Heatherton Park, Taunton, with Sir Hugh Low, K.C.M.G., British Resident of Perak, Straits Settlements, took place recently at Bradford parish church. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. B. Portman, Staple Fitzpaine, assisted by the Rev. P. Broadmead, vicar of Bradford. The bride was given away by her father, and the bridegroom was attended by his brother as best man. The wedding breakfast was served at Hatherton to about thirty guests. During the afternoon Sir Hugh and Lady Low left for the seat of Mr. St. John Mildmay, at Dulverton.

The marriage of Major Frederick George Slade, Royal Artillery, youngest son of the late General Marcus John Slade, and grandson of the late General Sir John Slade, Bart., G.C.H., with Emmeline Charlotte Delap, youngest daughter of the late Major Wadham Wyndham Bond, of Armagh, was solemnised at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Saturday last. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Gerald Portal, his cousin, as best man. The bride arrived punctually at eleven o'clock, and was conducted to the altar by her brother-in-law, Major Disney Roebuck (Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry), by whom she was afterwards given away. She was handsomely attired in bodice and train of white satin, over a petticoat of white brocaded velvet and satin embroidered in pearls, and draped with deep flounces of Honiton point lace, the gift of the bridegroom's mother. She wore sprays of orange blossoms in her hair, and a veil matching the lace on her dress, fastened with diamond stars and a diamond crescent. Her ornaments included a rivière of diamonds, and three pendant diamond stars; and she carried a lovely bouquet. Immediately behind the bride, bearing her train, followed her two nephews, Master Wyndham and Master Claude Disney Roebuck, as pages. They were dressed in black velvet jackets and knee breeches, with deep collars and cuffs of point lace. The bride was also attended by five bridesmaids, who wore dresses of coffee-coloured canvas and embroidery trimmed with lace, and having ruby velvet collars and cuffs. They had small Marie Stuart bonnets of coffee lace, relieved with ruby velvet bows and edged with ruby beads. Each wore a pearl star and crescent pin and carried a bouquet of tea roses and crimson carnations, both gifts of the bridegroom. Mrs. Disney Roebuck, sister of the bride, wore an elegant dress of heliotrope brocade and satin, draped with wide flounces of exquisite duchesse point, and bonnet of Egyptian gold embroidery, with a white aigrette; ornaments, diamonds. Mrs. Slade, sister-in-law of the bridegroom, wore a tasteful dress handsomely trimmed with blue velvet, with white and blue bonnet to match. The Rev. George Slade, M.A., uncle of the bridegroom, officiated. Major and Mrs. Disney Roebuck afterwards held a reception at their residence in Piccadilly, after which the newly-wedded couple left for Chester, *en route* for Westmoreland. The bride's travelling costume was of cigar-brown canvas, over satin of the same colour, with waistcoat and long hanging bows of velvet of a darker shade, and hat to match. The wedding presents included some costly jewels and plate. The Empress Eugénie's gift was a massive silver épergne.

The marriage of Lord Manners and Miss Constance Fane, of Clovelly Court, was celebrated on Wednesday at Clovelly, North Devon. The bridegroom is master of the Quorn hounds, and late of the Grenadier Guards. After the wedding breakfast the newly-married pair drove to Castle Hill, the seat of Earl Fortescue, where the first part of the honeymoon will be passed. The bridesmaids were Miss Hamlyn Fane and Miss Christine Fane, sisters of the bride; and the Hon. Ethel Manners and the Hon. Mildred Manners, sisters of the bridegroom; and Lady Frances and Lady Gertrude Fane, cousins of the bride. The Hon. A. Manners brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. The presents included gifts from the Earl and Countess of Iddesleigh, the Earl and Countess of Portsmouth, Earl and Countess Fortescue, Lord Ebrington, the Earl of Ellesmere, the Hon. Mark and Lady Rolle, Sir George and Lady Stucley, and many other distinguished friends, and a silver salver from the officers of the Grenadier Guards.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on August 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(SIXTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1.	W	alhall	A
2.	A	ltendor	F or Altdorf
3.	R	eaumu	R
4.	R	ivol	I
5.	E	ri	C
6.	N	isgar	A

Solutions have been received from Viz, Paddy, Mac, Vertumnus, Chelmsford, Pegasus, Waddles, Etak, Katydid, Felix, Conjecture, Asphodel, Sociable, Godiva, Iris, Tilly Slowboy, Bios, S.O.F., Roma, Zyx, and Magnet.

MARCH TIES.—Persevere and Todcat have both sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

MAY TIES.—Hampton Courtier and Ketha have both sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

JUNE TIES.—L.E.L. and Tim have both sent correct solutions, and remain competing. Tim prefers not to divide.

JULY TIES.—A Casual, Knutsford, Land o' Nod, Muddle Peewit, Random Shot, and Senga have all sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

ERRATUM.—In Proem of last week's Acrostic read "In favour now," &c., instead of "No favour now." In consequence of this error, solutions to this Acrostic will be received up to Wednesday, August 19.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(SIXTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

He who has conquered in so many fields
To the dread conqueror of all now yields.

1.

"I never felt the kiss of love,
Nor maiden's hand in mine."

2.

Its name recalls the far-famed story
Of English freedom that is England's glory.

3.

In death her love its fervour expressed
By a tomb whose marvels all confessed.

4.

New York frequents the bay, and Boston there
In holiday time full oft is wont to fare.

5.

Pilate knew not what it was. And we
Are often just as much puzzled as he.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has gone abroad for a few weeks' rest. Letters on important business should be addressed to the resident chaplain, Lambeth Palace.

A numerously attended meeting of county gentlemen was held in Northampton on Saturday morning, to welcome Earl Spencer on his return from Ireland. The Marquis of Exeter and the *élite* of the county were present, and an address was unanimously agreed to congratulating Earl Spencer on his safe return to his native county, and expressing their pride at his firm and fearless bearing in the midst of no ordinary trials and dangers, and his performance of the onerous duties of his office of Irish Viceroy, which had been a noble example to his countrymen. The address concluded with a warm recognition of the Countess Spencer's high social qualities. His Lordship was escorted to the station by the local rifle volunteers, and vociferously cheered by the crowd which followed. He expressed his great appreciation at the kindly feeling which prompted the presentation of such an address, which both he and the Countess would greatly prize.

Lord Ernest Vane Tempest, son of the third Marquis of Londonderry, died at Scarborough yesterday. The deceased noblemen won distinction in the Federal Army, as Captain Stewart, during the war in the United States. His only surviving sister is the Duchess of Marlborough. Lord Ernest Vane Tempest was born 29th February, 1836, and married, 12th January, 1869, Mary, daughter of Thomas Hutchinson, Esq., of Howden Hall, county Durham.

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